

Cornelius Rufus Nelson
25 Bouverie Street
Fleet Street

THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 651.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 1858.

PRICE: UNSTAMPED .. 6d.
STAMPED 6d.

THE ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING of the SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE PATRONAGE and CONTROL, will be held on WEDNESDAY EVENING, the 5th of May next, in ST. MARTIN'S HALL, LONG ACRE.

The Chair will be taken by CHARLES COWAN, Esq., M.P. for Edinburgh, at Seven o'clock.

Further particulars will be announced.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.
2, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street.

BRITISH SOCIETY for the PROPAGATION of the GOSPEL among the JEWS.

The FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING will be held (D.V.) in FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN-STREET, on FRIDAY EVENING, April 30th.

Chair to be taken at Six o'clock.

Tickets may be had at the Office, No. 1, Crescent-place, Blackfriars.

CHRISTIAN VERNACULAR EDUCATION SOCIETY FOR INDIA.

OBJECT.—To Promote Christian Education in the Native Schools throughout India.

PLANS.—1. By establishing Training Institutions for Native Teachers, first in each Presidency, and by degrees in each region where a distinct language is spoken. 2. By publishing books, both primary and more advanced, with a Christian character and aim, chiefly school books.

Provisional Committee, appointed at a Preliminary Meeting, held at the Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi, on the 18th of Dec., 1857; Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, M.P., in the Chair.

The Earl of Shaftesbury.
Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P.
Sir C. E. Eardley, Bart.
Major-General Alexander, late
Adj.-Gen. of Madras Army.

Rev. W. Arthur, Sec. Wes. Miss. Soc., and formerly Missionary in the Mysore. (Acting Sec.)

Rev. W. M. Bunting.
Rev. J. Chapman, Sec. C.M.S., and late Principal of the Ceylon College, Travancore.

Rev. J. Cunningham, D.D.
G. H. Davis, Esq., Sec. Religious Tract Society.

Rev. J. Penn, formerly Principal of the Ceylon College, Travancore.

Rev. J. F. Thomas, Esq., Sec. Church Missionary Society.

Rev. H. Venn, Hon. Sec. Church Missionary Society.

For information the Provisional Committee refer to their statement, which is in course of circulation, and is to be had at—Christian Vernacular Education Society's Office, 5, Robert-street, Adelphi; Church Missionary House, Salisbury-square; Baptist Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street; London Mission House, Blomfield-street, Finsbury; Wesleyan Mission House, Bishopsgate-street Within.

DONATIONS and SUBSCRIPTIONS received by Messrs. Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., 1, Pall-mall East; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 51, Lombard-street; and by any of the Secretaries.

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Lord J. Russell, M.P.	20	0	0
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Other	(ann.)	2	00

Acting Secretaries.
W. KENNEDY,
W. ARTHUR.

STOCKWELL INDEPENDENT CHAPEL.

Next SUNDAY MORNING, the Rev. DAVID THOMAS will deliver a LECTURE in this place. Subject: "Paul Driven Up and Down in Adria; or, the Voyage of Life." The "Biblical Liturgy" will be used.

Service to commence at Eleven o'clock.

LONDON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL BUILDING SOCIETY.

APPEAL FOR ADDITIONAL HELP.

I. In addition to the indirect influence which the formation and labours of this Society are admitted to have exerted upon the cause of chapel extension in London and throughout the country, it has, during the nine years of its existence, wholly erected, purchased, or aided by loans or grants, 39 chapels, containing 19,300 sittings, and which have cost the Society, and those engaged in these undertakings, £8,000.

II. The Society is under obligations, at the present time, to the extent of £3,550, in consequence of grants promised in aid of the erection of chapels at the following places:—

CHELSEA,
WOOLWICH,
ERITH,
SOUTHWARK,
WANDSWORTH,
NEW PECKHAM,
KILBURN,
HIGHGATE.

The aid which the Society has engaged to give to some of these enterprises, while not adequate to their importance, is to the full extent of its present resources.

III. Applications are constantly pressed upon the Committee for assistance in the purchase or erection of chapels in populous neighbourhoods where great destitution prevails, which they are compelled to decline on account of the want of adequate funds.

IV. The population of London is ever shifting, and requires corresponding efforts to meet the necessities of new neighbourhoods; and it may be added that the population of the Metropolis is about equal to that of the entire Kingdom of Scotland, and is increasing at the rate of 40,000 annually. It has been estimated that in Scotland there are 2,500 places of worship where the Gospel is preached, while in the Metropolis there are only 700 such places.

These facts constitute the Committee's appeal for generous contributions, which they would earnestly address, not only to their Brethren in the Metropolis, but throughout the country; for they feel that the present most inadequate provision of means of public worship in this great capital gives to the Society strong claims upon our churches throughout the United Kingdom.

EUSEBIUS SMITH, Treasurer.
CHAS. GILBERT,
JOHN BRAMALL, } Secretaries.

Contributions will be thankfully received by Eusebius Smith, Esq., 36, Cannon-street, City; and by the Secretaries, at the Office, 7, Blomfield-street, Finsbury.

BAPTIST MISSION SOCIETY.

The following is the arrangement for the Services in connexion with the SIXTY-SIXTH GENERAL MEETING of the BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THURSDAY, April 23rd.

A MEETING for PRAYER in the LIBRARY of the MISSION HOUSE; Morning, Eleven o'clock. The Rev. F. BOSWORTH, M.A., of Bristol, to preside.

LORD'S-DAY, April 24th.

Sermons will be preached on behalf of the Society in the Baptist Chapels of the Metropolis.

[For particulars see the "Missionary Herald" for April.]

THURSDAY, April 25th.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the Society will be held at the MISSION HOUSE, MOORGATE-STREET, at Ten o'clock in the Morning. This Meeting is for Members only. All subscribers of 10s. 6d. or upwards, donors of 10s. or upwards, pastors of churches which make an annual contribution, or ministers who collect annually for the Society, and one of the executors on the payment of a legacy of 50s. or upwards, are entitled to attend.

WEDNESDAY, April 26th.

The ANNUAL MORNING SERMON will be preached at the SURREY MUSIC HALL, by the Rev. C. H. SPURGEON, of London. Service to commence at Eleven o'clock. Admission by Tickets up to Quarter before Eleven, to be had at the Mission House, at the Vestries of the various Chapels, and at the usual places.

The ANNUAL EVENING SERMON will be preached at BLOOMSBURY CHAPEL, by the Rev. JOHN ALDIS, of Reading. Service to commence at Half-past Six o'clock.

THURSDAY, April 29th.

The ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will be held at EXETER HALL, Strand. The Chair to be taken by Sir SAMUEL MORTON PETO, Bart., the Treasurer, at Eleven o'clock.

The ANNUAL SERMON to YOUNG MEN will be preached at the WRIGHT-HOUSE CHAPEL, by the Rev. T. A. WHEELER, of Norwich, in the Evening, at Eight o'clock.

Admission to the Public Meeting on Thursday Morning will be by Tickets, which may be obtained at the Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street.

The Platform at the Public Meeting will be appropriated to the Committee, to the Speakers, to the Representatives of kindred institutions, and to such other individuals as it may be deemed proper specially to invite; and also to all Ministers who are Members of the Society.

The body of the Hall will be for the Members of the Society generally.

FREDERICK TRESTHALL,
EDWARD B. UNDERHILL, } Secretaries.

Baptist Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street,
London, April 6th, 1858.

BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL MEETING will be held at KINGS-GATE CHAPEL, HOLBORN, on Monday Evening next, 30th April.

The Chair will be taken at Half-past Six precisely, by FOTTO BROWN, Esq., of Houghton.

The Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel, of London; the Rev. Paxton Hood, of London; the Rev. Charles Vince, of Birmingham; and the Rev. Wm. Best, of Ramsey, will address the Meeting.

R. J. DAVIS, Secretary.

BAPTIST METROPOLITAN CHAPEL BUILDING SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL MEETING of this Society will be held on Thursday, the 23rd inst., at the MILTON CLUB, LUDGATE-HILL, when

Sir S. MORTON PETO, Bart., is to preside.

Several ministers and other gentlemen are expected to address the meeting.

The attendance of all friendly to chapel extension is particularly requested.

Tea and Coffee supplied at Six, and the Chair taken at Seven o'clock.

ANNUAL MEETINGS of the BAPTIST IRISH SOCIETY.

The SERMON will be Preached in DEVONSHIRE-SQUARE CHAPEL, on FRIDAY EVENING, April 23rd, by the Rev. D. KATERN. The Service to commence at Seven o'clock.

The MEETING of MEMBERS of the SOCIETY will be held in the LIBRARY of the MISSION HOUSE, 33, MOORGATE-STREET, on Monday, April 26th. The Chair to be taken at Eleven o'clock.

The PUBLIC MEETING will be held in KINGS-GATE CHAPEL, HOLBORN, on Tuesday Evening, April 27th. The Chair to be taken at Half-past Six o'clock, by D. W. WINE, Esq., Alderman.

The Rev. J. P. Chown, of Bradford; the Rev. Clement Hall-hack, of Leeds; and the Rev. A. M. Henderson, of Clarendon Chapel, London, have engaged to take part in the Meeting.

BAPTIST EVANGELICAL SOCIETY and CONTINENTAL MISSION.

The SUBSCRIBERS' MEETING of the above Society will be held at LITTLE WILD-STREET CHAPEL, Lincoln's-inn-fields, on Thursday afternoon, April 22, 1858, at Three o'clock.

And on the following Evening, Friday, April 23rd, the THIRTIETH ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will be held at SALEM CHAPEL, Strand-street, Wandsworth, S.W.

The Chair to be taken at Half-past Six, by R. JAMES OLIVER, Esq.

A Report of the past year's proceedings will be read, and the meeting addressed by several Ministers and other gentlemen. A Collection will be made in aid of the Missionary Operations of the Society on the Continent of Europe.

BRITISH and FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society is appointed to be held at EXETER HALL, in the STRAND, LONDON, on Wednesday, the 5th of May, at Eleven o'clock precisely.

Tickets of admission may be obtained at the Society's House, 10, Earl-street, Blackfriars, where attendance will be given from Wednesday, April 21, to Tuesday, May 4, for the purpose of issuing tickets, upon application, between the hours of Twelve and Four.

JOHN MEE,
S. E. BRIDGE, } Secretaries.

WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL, BROAD SANCTUARY, OPPOSITE WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

On SUNDAY, 26th of April, TWO SERMONS in Aid of the Funds of this Chapel will be preached at WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, JAMES STREET, LONDON. In the Morning by the Rev. J. MORTON PETO, Minister of Westminster Chapel; and in the Evening by the Rev. JAMES SHERMAN, late of Exeter Chapel, and now of Blackheath.

Divine Service will commence at the Meeting at Eleven, and in the Evening at Half-past Six o'clock.

F. J. WILSON, Secretary.

LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT CHURCHMAN'S FELLOWSHIP.

One of three FELLOWSHIP of the yearly value of £31., and tenable for three years, is to be offered at the end of the Present Session. It is now open to Competition to Students in the College studying on their Theological Course, and to Candidates for Admission who have taken a Degree in Arts, and who seek to enter for the Divinity Course.

Application for further particulars, as well as for admission to the College, should be addressed to the Secretary, Rev. A. Clark, Stockport; or to the Rev. Professor North, at the College, Manchester.

A CONGREGATIONAL MINISTER, between Thirty and Forty years of age, having been compelled to resign his office through ill health, is now able to undertake another office of sphere and amount of income of minor importance, but a locality decidedly dry and healthy is indispensable.

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Address, stating age, salary, qualifications, and references, to G. Dowman, Chemist, Southampton.

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highest respectability, a SITUATION of Trust as BOOK-KEEPER or MANAGER in some Business, Manufacturing or otherwise, either in town or country; the latter, if not over 100 miles from London, preferred. A Situation preferred which, in the course of two or three years, there would be an opening for a Partnership or purchase of the Business.

Address, J. J., 6, Stockwell Park-road, Brixton-road, S.

TO DRAPERS.—WANTED, by a JUNIOR
HAND, a SITUATION in a GENERAL TRADE.

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References are kindly permitted by the Rev. J. P. Mursell, the Rev. T. Lomas, E. Harris, Esq., and C. B. Robinson, Esq., Leicester; E. Powtress, Esq., 4, Kensington-park-terrace, Baywater, London; the Rev. F. Bosworth, M.A., Bristol; the Rev. Dr. Aoworth, President of Horton College, Bradford, Yorkshire; and to the Parents of his Pupils.

ACHILLES INSURANCE COMPANY,
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March 16, 1858.

A question having recently been raised in a Court of Equity, regarding the liability of an Assurance Company to pay claims by Death, in the event of the party assured dying within the "thirty days of grace" allowed for the payment of the Premium, the Board of Directors of this Company call attention to the following clause, printed in all Prospectuses issued by them:—

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H. B. TAPLIN, Secretary.

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G. H. LAW, Manager.

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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Eccliaastical Affairs.

THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

WE have felt ourselves justified in departing from our established practice this week, and surrender the space which we usually occupy with editorial comments on eccliaastical affairs, to our Calcutta correspondent, whose communications, whether historical or critical, our readers, we believe, have found as instructive as they have been interesting. Since his return from a voyage to the Andaman Islands, undertaken for the benefit of his health, he has sent us, besides a graphic narrative of current events, two papers in which he deals with some of the more important questions claiming serious consideration in reference to the reconstitution of the Government of India. The first of these papers was unfortunately lost in the *Alva*, off Ceylon, and we knew nothing of its having been written when the second came to hand. We, therefore, published his views of caste, the patronage of idolatry, Government education, and the growth of opium, as we could find space for them, not being aware that they were written in natural sequence to a foregoing communication. However, our indefatigable correspondent, hearing of the disaster (before the news of it could reach us) by which his first paper was lost, forthwith re-wrote it, and transmitted it to us by the last mail. We have now the pleasure of presenting it to our readers, not, indeed, as embodying our own opinions in every particular, but as containing the matured views of one who is thoroughly conversant with the subject on which he writes, and whose high intelligence, conscientious care, and earnest religious character, entitle him to a most attentive and respectful hearing. With this brief explanation, we will let our correspondent speak for himself.

So long as we were struggling for very life in India, I confined my letters almost entirely to the details of our military contest, and such other information as would tend to place them in a clear and correct light. It seemed hardly the time to discuss the causes of the rebellion, both near and remote; or agitate for such new measures as will be required on the restoration of peace. But now that we have begun to breathe again, and Parliament is already engaged in discussing the propriety of dissolving the East India Company, it may be well to turn to some of the numerous questions which the future well-being of India requires to be settled, and settled thoroughly ere long.

Some of these questions concern the structure of the Home Government, and the relation of that Government to the Crown and Parliament. Others relate to the best form of the Central Government in India, of the Executive Council, the Secretariat offices, and the mode in which all shall be connected with the ruling power at home. Others involve the best method of giving justice to the people, whether by the regulation system or that of the non-regulation provinces; the constitution of civil and criminal courts, and the codes of authority by which their officers shall be guided. Others again refer to the revenue, the tenures of land, and the position occupied by the peasantry in relation both to the soil and the authorities above them. The question of the native army, the police, the jails, must also come prominently forward. But important as these subjects are, there is another question which the very origin and growth of this rebellion compel us to regard as the most important

of all brought up at the present time; and that is, the spirit exhibited by the Indian Government in reference to religious matters. It is to this question I wish to direct the attention of your readers.

The very position occupied by the Government as rulers of any people who believe in religious systems that are mutually contradictory, must compel them in justice to be neutral; quite apart from the great fact that the Christian religion, which the Government professes to follow, enjoins liberty of conscience and forbids all persecution. A really strict and honest neutrality is what the Government ought to practise. But so far from being satisfied with such a course, with the usual weakness and want of principle inherent in human nature, the Indian Government has truckled to the religions of the majority, in hope of securing their favour, and has to a considerable extent shown disfavour to the adherents of its own professed faith. Dearly indeed have we paid for this want of principle, for this shortsighted folly. But so far as I see at present, unless the Christian public speak loudly, speak strongly, and speak continuously, without weariness and without hesitation, the present Government of India will not change one atom of its former unprincipled conduct on this score. Its position on these questions will require me to notice the following points: that it is ashamed of its own religion—its patronage of caste—its patronage of idolatry—Hindoo holidays—education—and opium.

I.—ASHAMED OF ITS OWN RELIGION.

Nothing that the Government of India has done, whether in its legislation or its administration of the law, has ever exhibited a hearty attachment to the principles and privileges of that divine religion which its members individually profess to follow. Nowhere has it shown that that divine faith is held to be its mightiest tower of strength; that by its principles it will be guided; and that on its promises of protection it will fearlessly rely. Nowhere has it ever given the slightest sign of that dauntless confidence in Christian truth, which, while it abstains from persecution, says before the world, "If God be for us, who can be against us?" On the contrary, the Christian element in its character has been scrupulously hidden; and has been regarded as a positive ground of fear, if not of reproach besides. This has been proved in a thousand ways: of course the positive patronage of idolatry and of caste furnish the strongest kind of evidence; but the negative shame respecting the Gospel, and the fear of placing it prominently before the Hindoos, frequently appear in the most petty details of Government proceedings. Thus, when in June last a number of native Christians met together, prepared an address of sympathy with the Government in its troubles, and expressed their confidence in its stability, on forwarding it to the Governor-General, they were surprised at the request, that it might be withdrawn: "it was very excellent and kind; and the Governor-General agreed with every word of it: but under the circumstances it was better that the native Christians should not come prominently forward!" When a short time after a large number of the Krishnagur Christians offered themselves and their carts for the transport of the English troops to the North-West, the offer was promptly declined because it was made by them as Christians, not as subjects; and as having a fellow-feeling with the Government in relation to religion, of which that Government is particularly afraid. When the residents of Burrisal, fearing danger from the large Mohammedan population around them, especially the earnest Ferazis so abundant in East Bengal, formed a special police corps of 300 native Christians, as men whom they could thoroughly trust, they were ordered by the Lieutenant-Governor to disband the force, as it was improper to put class against class. For years whole battalions have been formed of Brahmins, favour being specially shown to them; but Mr. Halliday will not allow such a system when native Christians, the most loyal of the whole population, become the objects towards whom it is displayed, even in time of danger! When the Foudzac of Belgaum, by his activity and intelligence, prevented an outbreak in that city, and, in the words of the people there, "saved Belgaum," no reward was publicly bestowed upon him for his excellent conduct, because he is a Christian, and it would look invidious! In how many cases have Tewaree Naik and others, Sepoys, both Hindoo and Mussulman, received both money and promotion as the reward of "conspicuous devotion to the State;" but when a Christian does the like, they are positively afraid to give him his real due.

It was this fear about the Gospel, accompanied by a great deal of the current practical infidelity, that led the East India Company so strenuously to oppose the settlement in their territory of the Serampore missionaries; that so carefully watched for years their circulation of the Bible and of Christian tracts; and that contended so earnestly against Mr. Wilberforce's efforts to improve the Charter of 1813. It was from this fear that many of the Company's servants prophesied, on the landing of Bishop Middleton, that the country would soon be in a blaze of rebellion from one end to the other. It was this which demanded the instant discharge from the army of Prabhu-din, the Sepoy at Meerut, who was baptized as a Christian in 1819. From the same cause, the Court in 1846 sent out a despatch, "most carefully drawn by Sir James Hogg," forbidding any of the Government servants to take office in any of the religious societies, or preside at their public meetings;—a despatch which Lord Hardinge quietly buried, from the first conviction that it would produce more noise than it was intended to prevent. The same feeling suggested Lord Ellenborough's speech against the subscriptions which Lord Canning did not give to Christian missions.

Not only is all this silence, this shame, this fear, about Christianity and Christians, unprincipled, but they are useless. They utterly fail to accomplish the end for which they are adopted. Natives know very well that we are Christians, and when they see the Government hiding the fact, truckling to idolatry, and supporting caste, they only say, "You are deceiving us;" or they assert "You have no religion;"—about the worst thing that in native estimation can be said of any man. No native is conciliated; and all are emboldened to become impudent. Nothing conciliates a native and makes him respect a European so much as MANLINESS, be it in wrestling, fighting, or religion. A manly, yet thoroughly kind religious practice will always make an immense impression upon an Oriental population. But in this, I presume, they are not singular; for manliness is honoured everywhere.

Though such has been the general tone of the Government policy, there have been admirable exceptions among individual officers. The late Mr. Thomson never concealed his personal attachment to the Gospel, and always openly countenanced the missions of the North-West Provinces, especially those of the Church of England. Men like the late Robert Tucker, of Futtehpore, Mr. Robertson, of Bareilly, Mr. Henry Carre Tucker, the Commissioner of Benares, and Mr. John Muir, were never ashamed of their religion, but before all their fellow-countrymen, and all the heathen, have shown that their sympathies are bound up with the progress of God's cause and the conversion of Hindoos to Christ. Sir Henry Lawrence was eminently distinguished for the same boldness. Yet who was more tolerant, who so much beloved by natives as well as Europeans. Mr. Tucker has for many years spent time, influence, and money, in the missions of the Benares district. He has kept Benares safe during the outbreak, and now that he is leaving, hundreds of the Rajahs, bankers, and landholders of the district come forward in a body to thank him for the deep interest he has shown in the enlightenment and prosperity of their part of India. The Punjab officers have been peculiarly distinguished by their honesty and fearlessness in the same cause. Colonel Edwardes, at Peshawur; Mr. Montgomery and Sir John Lawrence, at Lahore, have always supported missionaries and governed their territory on Christian principles. The circular recently issued by Mr. Montgomery, respecting the lessons taught by God's providence in this rebellion, and their desire to recognise native Christians as above all others eligible for Government employ, furnishes a fine example of their spirit. Contrast that circular with the conduct of the Brigadier at Sealkote, who on the first symptoms of mutiny forbade his officers to meet together for prayer, for fear the Sepoys should be disgusted at their devotion and break out into open rebellion. Truly is it written, "The fear of man bringeth a snare."

What, then, is required in the future reorganisation of the Indian Government? Taught by the solemn lessons of the past year, surely it ought to repudiate the future that timidity and reserve which it has hitherto displayed respecting the divine religion which its members profess to follow: a reserve which has proved useless in securing confidence, and has only drawn down upon it suspicion and reproach. It ought to repudiate

the unbelieving fear that fidelity to God will bring danger and rebellion, and be ashamed of its little faith in the protection of Him who has promised to honour them that honour him. It ought immediately to withdraw from the support of everything that is idolatrous or un-Christian. It ought to adopt the Christian standard of morality as its guide in all legislation, and in the spirit and aim with which the Executive discharges its trust. It might fearlessly adopt the statement of Mr. Montgomery as its own; and while avowing its determination never to persecute or bribe men to be Christians, it might boldly declare that the religion of the Bible is the religion which it loves, by which it will be guided, and which it will gladly see all its subjects embrace of their own accord. Native Christians would then no longer be spurned as they have been by Lord Canning and Mr. Halliday; but at least be considered as good as the fanatic Mussulmans.

2.—PATRONAGE OF CASTE.

Few in England, who are without Indian experience, can imagine the intense tenacity with which the Hindoos cleave to their caste system. It has come down to them from the earliest days of their religion, is intertwined with every element of their faith and every element in their practice, with all their public conduct and with all their social connexions, in fact with every notion and every act of private, social, and public life. It divides man from man, family from family, neighbour from neighbour, by barriers that are impassable. It crushes all feelings of benevolence, mutual kindness, and compassion. It cuts society into distinct sections that can have none of those relations with each other in which ties of affection and friendship are formed. Different castes must not eat with each other; must not give each other water to drink; and above all cannot intermarry. They cannot regard each other as fellow-men, having one blood, formed on one plan, and devoted to one end. The system professes to have a divine origin, and to find its base in the authority of the most ancient and most revered Shastres. All Hindoos accept it as such, and obey its stern demands as irrevocable and placed beyond all question. As a matter of argument its divine origin may be most successfully denied; its authority may be questioned; its history may be shown to be confused, doubtful, and self-contradictory; its rules have varied to an extreme degree at different periods; its own followers have at times risen up against its tyrannical claims; it is a contrivance intended to secure the predominance of the lordly Brahmin at the cost of the hardworking Sudras; it is cruel, unjust, destructive. All these things may be stated, argued, *PROVED*. But do not therefore think you have destroyed caste and proved it to be a NOTHING. Your judgment may deem it so; you may laugh at its absurdities, and reject it for its self-contradictions. But you have not touched the Hindoo. You may silence the logic of his head; but he believes it still with his whole heart; and though you may deem him injured by the system in every way in all his dearest interests, every Hindoo will consider that you ruin him utterly if you take his caste away. So tenaciously do all hold to it, that where it is compelled to bend to altered circumstances, they change the mode of its application, but keep the spirit still.

With this cruel and unrighteous system, so insulting to God, so injurious to men, the Indian Government has never openly interfered; it has been afraid to do so. On the contrary, it has in some points, especially with the native army, taken special pains to maintain its rules. In proclamations it has avowed a tender care of the system, and a determination to do nothing that could break it. Numerous officers in the army have recently shown how much deference has been paid to it; as in the choice of the men, high caste men and Brahmins being preferred to others; or in their marching, so as to prevent service beyond the sea; in digging trenches and the like. In many ways the convenience of the service has had to give way to the demands of caste. This is much more the case with the Bengal army than with those of Bombay and Madras. Not long since Sir Henry Somerset, at Bombay, issued an order, disallowed by Lord Elphinstone, declaring that high caste men were to be preferred as recruits. The latest instance of this deference was seen a few days ago. In December last, when the 70th N.I. volunteered for China, and the *Mauritius* steamer was prepared for them, one of the commissariat officers begged the men to go on board and see if the arrangements for securing the purity of their cooking and water were perfectly sufficient. The men said they had no doubt it was all correct; but the officer insisted on their going and judging for themselves! All this was done after the terrible consequences which have been developed from this yielding to caste during the past year.

Caste has always been troublesome to Europeans: but much more in former days than at present. Hindoo servants would not pull the punka over a piece of beef; or touch soap or tallow candles; and the more these things were listened to, the more exacting they became. On the contrary, when steadily resisted, the natives have found it easy to give in. Where their customs were not assailed violently, and where common sense and kindness were employed, innovations have frequently been admitted, and the old customs gradually removed. Intercourse with Europeans is in this way gradually producing changes in native notions and practices, which will in time give them an entirely new face.

In all missionary schools, and even in those of Government, Brahmins at first objected to sit with Sudras of the different castes: but the practice was defended and enforced, and now an objection on that score is quite unknown. It was the same in the medical colleges: many examinations of bones and organs in dead subjects, and of secretions in living ones, were objected to by the students on caste grounds: but it was urged that these things were done professionally, and were not degrading in themselves; and ere long the objections ceased entirely.

There need be no fear about acting in this way, where common sense explanations and a kind spirit accompany the attempt to resist the caste rule. Natives are very accommodating: when they find that on good grounds you do not intend to give in, within a certain range, they allow caste to adjust its demands according to your will, and they themselves submit. When Lord Amherst was Governor-General, he one day ordered an Oriya bearer to throw away some soapy water. The man declined on the ground that the touch of soap defiled him. His lordship, amazed at the absurdity of the thing to a servant in his position, commanded that the basin should remain untouched, and if in three days the man himself did not empty it, every Oriya bearer in Government House should be discharged. The man consulted his caste mates. An immense meeting was held on the plain in Calcutta, and it was decided that for the future soap might be touched without pollution being incurred!

The Government has been itself obliged to compel such innovations. In former years, all prisoners in gaol were allowed to cook for themselves, with a view to keeping their caste intact. But it was found that the men spent half the day in cleaning and polishing their vessels, and completing arrangements for their two comfortable meals: no work was done, and the cost of their maintenance fell wholly on the State. To avoid this, the messing system was introduced: the prisoners were divided into messes, and one man cooks for all. There was resistance at first: in one gaol the enraged prisoners set upon the magistrate during one of his usual visits to the gaol, and killed him with their brass pots. But ultimately the system was established in all the gaols, together with prison labour, and now numbers of these places pay all their expenses fully. Formerly only a few of the regiments were enlisted for general service, and could be compelled to cross the sea if required by military duty, the army being originally only a land army, because of the old Hindoo rule, that no cooking is allowed in a floating boat. Even their general service regiments, however, did not really lose caste after crossing the seas, military duty being considered to excuse the proceeding: and eventually Lord Dalhousie ordered that all enlistments should be without limit, and be for general service wherever required. There was some dissatisfaction among the older Sepoys; but enlistments were as numerous as before. Encroachments may be made with safety upon this cruel and tyrannical system, if made firmly, but judiciously, especially now that the great defender of caste, the Brahmin army of Bengal, has been swept away: for they are the only body that could or would fight on its behalf. Besides, it is right to oppose the unrighteous claims which the system makes; it is right to stand by the law of that God who made all men of ONE BLOOD, and to prefer it to the unholy laws made by the selfishness of men. What then ought the Government to do? It ought not to persecute caste: to pass laws against it; or to make its observance penal (as some have desired). But it ought not to sanction its observance, to pet and foster it among their subjects, to pay it deference, and help to maintain it. It may act in three ways.

a. The Government should ignore the existence of caste as a thing to be deferred to. Except for purely statistical purposes, the caste of a man should not appear in army lists, in school and college catalogues, in the description of witnesses in courts of justice, in the list of native Government officers and assistants, in the classification of prisoners in gaols. If the people themselves estimate it as of any worth in these situations, let the Government show that it takes no account of it whatsoever. Let it ignore the fact that such a thing exists, the natives will in time learn to ignore it too.

b. Let the Government proclaim everywhere, that in all branches of public employment, in the civil courts, in the police, in the army (if there is one), in the public works, in education, and in all other employments, a man will be appointed solely for his peculiar fitness for that particular post; that that fitness, arising from qualifications of body, mind, and heart, is the only test allowed; and that caste, as such, has no weight whatever.

c. Let caste and caste-obligations never be pleaded as a valid excuse for not performing any special duty required by the exigencies of the public service. And if any one should feel that those duties cannot be performed and caste be preserved, let him save his conscience by quitting the service. In all these ways, taking merely the negative ground of ignoring the very existence of caste, and refusing to acknowledge or submit to its influence, the Government may do its duty to society, by having no part or lot in maintaining that cruel system which has crushed the country for so many years.

3.—PATRONAGE OF IDOLATRY.

On this important question, I judge from numerous statements made at home, that a great deal of misappre-

hension exists; just as it exists among natives in India itself. The Indian Government is still connected with idol temples, Brahmins, mosques, and tombs; the settlement made of the matter several years back is any thing but satisfactory; improvement is still left for improvement; but things are by no means so bad as they were twenty years ago.

Formerly the connexion between the Government and the false religions of India was of the closest and most intimate kind. At the commencement of the present century, when Indian society was suffering from the spread of infidelity, so current after the French Revolution, and was filled with Scott Warrings, Twining, and "Hindoo Stewarts," the Government of Madras, urged on by men like Mr. Place, began to interfere on behalf of the Pagodas, which were rapidly decaying from the speculations of the priests; and with the full consent of the people began to take under its direct management the care of the Pagoda lands; the appointment of the priests, officers, and attendants; the proper performance of the ceremonies and festivals; and interest itself in securing prosperity for the "shrines of their ancient religions." It was first then, that, on the conquest of the Mahratta empire, the various gifts and endowments which had been made by the Peishwa, at Poona, were taken up and continued by the East India Company. In this way the Temple of Juggernath first came under Lord Wellesley's cognizance, and it was at the request of the priests that he ordered money to be advanced for some approaching ceremonies, and established a tax on pilgrims in order to reimburse the Government. A similar tax had long been in operation at GAYA, which gave the Government considerable profit; and as it found the taste of such money not unpleasant, a third tax was established at Allahabad, in 1810. The example once set, the precedent once established, nothing remained but to extend the system; and it was established to an awful extent over all the Presidency of Madras, and in much of the Presidencies of Bombay and Bengal. It spread over a wider surface, and descended to a depth of infamy which few of your readers have ever imagined. The number of officers who submitted to the system without scruple, who "bowed the knee to Baal" without fear, and received personal profits from their share of the management was very large. The number of those who cried out against it, and sought in every way to get rid of the burden, may be counted upon one's fingers. It went on, though latterly amid much opposition, till twenty years ago. During that long period of daring insult to the God who had given India into our hands, about nine thousand temples, mosques, and shrines, were brought into Government hands. All their lands were managed by Government officers, and the income fully devoted to the service of these false religions. Every appointment in the temples was made directly by the collector: the painter, the musician, the cook, the worshipping Brahmin, were each paid a monthly salary in the collector's office. Thousands of wretched dancing women were also appointed to them, and paid by the same officer. The offerings were received into his custody, and all the idol jewels were registered in his court. The daily service, the special ceremonies, the great annual festivals, were all ordered and paid for under his signature. At his command hundreds of thousands of unwilling peasants were yearly brought from their homes, and compelled gratuitously to drag the idol's car. And many of these Government officers thought it no shame to be present at the principal feasts and show an interest in their proceedings and their prosperity. One renegade from the Gospel, for several years used to precede the car of Juggernath, on one of the idol's elephants, and waving his hat, exclaim before the people, "Victory to Juggernath!" Others presented gifts to the shrines: and to this day, the priests in certain temples, point to the jewels and say, "This was given by Mr. Place," "That was offered by Mr. Garrett."

During all these years salutes were constantly fired on festival days, even when they fell upon the Christian Sabbath; and English soldiers, officers and men, were compelled to be present when native princes went in state to visit the shrines they honoured. Brahmins were fed by thousands, and uttered special *mantrams*, or holy texts, on cases of emergency. In seasons of drought, prayers used to be offered to the idol *Varuna*, in order to procure rain, by Brahmins who stood up to their necks in pools of water. At one festival, the degradation of common sense was so deep, that in the very offices themselves, the account-books and public records were placed in rows upon the desks, and all the native officials bowed down and worshipped them!

It was natural that with all this care the system of idolatry began to rear its head, and exhibit a splendour and external prosperity which it had not enjoyed for many long years. The temple lands yielded a revenue larger than ever before. The temple buildings were all kept in excellent repair; the tanks were cleansed from their dank weeds and foul water; the cars were kept neat, but were not freed from their indecent sculptures and pictures; all offices in the temples were kept filled and were paid regularly; the daily services were duly performed; the annual feasts were celebrated with pomp and show. The officers of a "Christian Government," themselves professing to be Christians, devoted their judgment, their honesty, their influence, their earnestness, their official authority, to the maintenance of a wicked system of idolatry, delusive to men

and insulting to God. The Madras officers received large sums annually as commission on the Pagoda funds that passed through their hands. The pilgrims everywhere found good and safe roads; the priests of the shrines travelled everywhere proclaiming themselves Government servants; and the notion was most extensively propagated among the people, and firmly held by them, that the Indian Government was the great friend of their idols, approved their worship, and wished to see it prosper.

Oh! the horrors of that guilty time! We stand amazed at the thought that such an awful state of things could ever be. It seems impossible that Christian men could ever so degrade themselves by taking such an active share in all the details of that senseless system. And we wonder that the God of heaven, who was so grievously insulted, so continuously insulted, by these abominable and unprincipled proceedings, did not rise up in avenging might, and with one burst of righteous indignation overwhelm the guilty Government that had dared so to abuse the trust committed to its hands, so grossly mislead the people whose interests it was to foster, and to insult and trample on His own holy name. The punishment has come at last; and has come from the great Brahmin army whose gods and whose caste the guilty Government so long sought to honour. Oh! that the bitter lesson may, like the punishment of Israel in Babylon, be so blessed as to bring the folly which required it to a complete end.

The money gain to the revenue was by no means small from these transactions. In the Madras Presidency the Pagoda funds were kept quite separate from other expenditure; the income of the temples paid all the annual expenses, and there was a small surplus, gradually accumulating: in June, 1847, the surplus amounted to 135,000*l*. The Parliamentary papers say nothing about such surplus in Bombay. But in Bengal, the three pilgrim taxes of Gaya, Allahabad, and Juggernath had given to the revenue, before they were abolished, a money profit of more than A MILLION AND A HALF.

The open, unblushing support of idolatry which I have described, no longer remains so prominent as it once was. Lord Glenelg's great despatch of 1833 was the first public step towards a change; though both the Court at home and the Government in India refused to carry it out. The House of Commons interfered in 1838, and on the orders of Sir J. Hobhouse, the pilgrim taxes were abolished; and all interference in the management of the temples peremptorily ordered to cease. The change which took place was this. All open connexion with the idolatry was abandoned. The temples, their lands and their endowments, were handed over to native committees, who were to act as trustees; and the establishments were appointed solely by them. Thus the Temple of Juggernath was given to the Rajah of Khoordah; the temple at Tripetty to the Mahant or chief priest; the temple of Srirungam to three native landholders; and so with others. But the money claimed from the Government by the temples or by Brahmins and others, was paid as before; and, indeed, in nearly all instances, continues to be paid to this day. The first native committees were of course appointed by the Government. But the question soon arose, on the occurrence of a vacancy in the committee, Who is to fill it up? This was referred to the Governor of Bombay, who at once saw the importance of the reference, and forbade the collector to interfere, declaring that the natives must manage entirely for themselves. In Madras, the Governor permitted the collectors to fill the vacancies, and they go on appointing the trustees of those great temples to this hour. This is a most important point to keep in mind at the present time: for it maintains a close and intimate connexion with the system still.

How stands the idolatry question there just now? *a. First:* In a very large number of cases, the sums of money formerly paid by the Government continue to be paid still. They amount in all to nearly 170,000*l*. annually.

Puri for "holy food" . . .	2640
North-West Provinces . . .	11,050
Bombay Presidency . . .	69,859
Madras Presidency . . .	87,678
	<hr/> 219,227

These sums are paid in many places to shrines, tombs, and mosques scattered all over the country. It appears that the whole 9,000 temples and the like still are connected with the Government in this way: though when the money is once paid, the Government ask no account of the manner in which it is spent. These sums, however, are not entirely gifts of benevolence. The Government, it is true, have at times given new endowments; but the majority of these sums are the continuation of endowments granted by former kings; or they represent the income of Pagoda lands, resumed by the Government. In the latter case, the shrines have a right to them; the Government merely being the channel through which the money is conveyed. This fact is not widely known either among Hindoos or Christians; and the SCANDAL is just as great as if the Government gave the money of its own accord. It bears that appearance, produces that effect, and ought therefore to be got rid of.

b. Again, the connexion is maintained in other ways. There is a regulation in Bengal, of 1803, according to which vacancies in the office of CAZY, in certain Mohammedan cities, have to be filled up by the English judge. The Cazy is indeed the official who performs Mussulman marriages, but he also performs some special religious services, and ought not, therefore, to be appointed by

Government. Mr. Robertson, the Judge of Bareilly, who was so cruelly shot by the Sepoys in the mutiny at that station, felt this so strongly that he refused to fill up a vacancy when it was brought to his notice.

Another regulation, prevalent both in Bengal and Madras, orders that "all endowments for the support of mosques, Hindoo temples, and colleges, and for other pious and beneficial purposes," are placed under the superintendence of the Board of Revenue, not of the ordinary civil courts, in order that the Board may see them appropriated "to the real intent and will of the grantor." Thus again is the Government called upon specially to interfere for the faithful preservation of Hindooism, where no such care is shown to the interests of Christianity. Many able officers of Government have objected to it, but for a want of a substitute the regulation disgraces the statute-book still.

c. Again, so tenacious is this connexion with the native shrines, that one frequently comes across isolated cases of it, never once mentioned in the Parliamentary returns, and never appearing openly in Government accounts. The other day, most unexpectedly, I received a letter from a friend, informing me of eighty-one temples and mosques in the district of Terhoot, in Bengal, receiving annually Rs. 1,740 from the collector's treasury. A few years ago there were 169 temples receiving Rs. 3,400. We never heard of this case before. We have heard, too, of temples at Gaya, similarly situated, temples in Jessore, temples at Cuttack, all receiving money, no one knows why, and no one knows how long. Some short time ago we heard of Brahmins worshipping Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, in the Company's salt godowns at Hidgelee, in order to make the salt trade lucky; they drew monthly salaries for this worship! We heard too of similar worship being offered at Patna, on the departure of the opium fleet for Calcutta! all to secure the Government against loss. I am happy to say that these things were at once stopped, on our bringing them to the notice of a Christian officer, holding authority in the Revenue department. These isolated cases show how deeply seated and tenacious this great evil is. Sometimes it is not the Government that thus acts. Often have regimental officers, of their own accord, subscribed for the celebration of some idolatrous festival by their Sepoys: and even joined them in the feasting, dances, and songs with which it was accompanied. Recently I heard that several of the Government officers in Burmah have thus given donations towards the regilding of the great Pagodas in those provinces. We must have not only a change in the laws, but in the spirit and character of the men, before we shall get rid of the evil altogether.

WHAT, THEN, IS TO BE DONE?

1. Considering the imperfect information hitherto made public, and the quiet way in which the evil was spread in former days, while it remained unnoticed, I think we should ask from the House of Commons that they institute a special inquiry as to the amount of money still paid to temples, mosques, tombs, Brahmins, and priests, in every district of our Indian empire, under whatever name or designation; showing how much is paid, why it is paid, and when the payment began. If rigidly enforced and properly arranged, we should learn clearly the point at which we have now arrived. I was glad to see that Mr. Kinnaid had moved for fresh "returns," later than those printed in 1851. Those returns were most imperfect and incomplete. Several questions still pending in 1849 were omitted altogether: "Were the large Pagoda estates transferred to the native committees as well as the small ones?" "What became of the disputed Pagoda balances?" "Why do the Madras officers still fill up vacancies among the temple trustees?" On these points nothing was said, though the papers must be in the India House. Unless care is taken they may omit valuable papers in the return first ordered. I think, therefore, it would be well to follow the matter up by asking for an entirely new inquiry into the money spent in every district of the Indian empire; requiring returns from every collector and every deputy-collector through the whole of India.

2. Having gained this information it will not be difficult to get rid of the payments altogether. All small payments to buildings or individuals which may be claimed as a right, should be commuted by one single payment. All gifts to individuals, whether as from the present or former Governments, might be treated in the same way. All large sums, belonging of right to the shrines, should be commuted by an endowment of land, of which in the Madras Presidency the Government has a great deal to spare. A good precedent in the matter has just been furnished in the case of Juggernath. The deed which gives over a part of the Khoordah estate to the Temple of Puri, in lieu of the Rs. 23,321 hitherto paid, has just been signed: the money represented old endowments existing under the Mahratta Kings: and the temple has simply been replaced in the circumstances by which it was surrounded in their days. This result has been brought about by the steady perseverance of the Orissa missionaries, and of the Calcutta Missionary Conference who joined them in their opposition to the former payments. If the same thing is done throughout South India, the terrible scandal now existing may soon be entirely removed. In Ceylon all connexion between Buddhism and the Government has long since been severed.

4.—HINDOO HOLIDAYS.

A further illustration of the mode in which the Govern-

ment of India, and English society generally, are mixed up with the superstitions of the country, and a point in which alteration is desirable, is the observance of Hindoo holidays. These holidays are the days on which the chief festivals fall throughout the year. They are ordered and observed as public holidays in all the civil courts and Government offices, and to a very large extent are kept as such in merchants' offices and in public schools. On these days business is suspended, the banks and treasuries are closed, and all money engagements, especially at the time of the long holidays in September, are provided for before the holidays commence. Special worship is offered by the people to the gods to whom the days are devoted: and nautches, or native dances, are frequently held at the houses of the most wealthy. Twenty years ago, at the great festival of the worship of Durga, the European community were specially invited, and it was fashionable to attend. Shame was it that year after year judges, civilians, and soldiers, barristers, merchants, and heads of offices, gathered in these native houses to see the idol-dances and share the idol feast. There is not much of it however now.

The number of Hindoo holidays in the year is about thirty-five; given by Government in addition to the Sabbath-day. It strikes one at once that to give holidays on days of heathen festivals reflects honour upon the festival, and associates with it ideas of rest, ease, and pleasure. Are not these things objectionable? Why should such honour be given? In arguing that it should not, I would point out, first, that the Hindoos themselves never avow that, on their festival days, rest is enjoined from the ordinary business of every-day life. They like it, and take it; but it is not commanded; and the bazaars are all busy, the shops all open, and even a brisker trade is driven on those holidays than on other days. Rest for the sake of worship, and in order to give it a right tone, is a Christian idea, and belongs to the Sabbath divinely appointed. Again: it is by no means difficult to set these holidays aside. In several merchants' offices very few holidays are given. Several of the attorneys and barristers give none at all. A few of the uncovenanted heads in Government offices also require their clerks to be present on those days as well as others. Missionary schools give no holiday on those days; though, from the fact that the breakfast of native families is later, and a large number of their scholars come to school without any at all, they usually give a half-holiday. In the Free Church Institution during the past year they gave up even that. It would not be therefore at all difficult, in Calcutta and other large towns at least, to set these days of festival aside, and withdraw from them the distinction by which they are now marked. The idols should be ignored as well as the system of caste.

It may be objected that holidays are more required in India than in England. To this it must be answered that, while the statement is perfectly true, there is no need of fixing holidays for real rest upon days when Hindoo idols are worshipped. We should get the holidays by all means; but let them be fixed at proper intervals, not as they now are, irregularly and without system; and let us not in them honour even indirectly the idols from whose service the people have already suffered so much injury. Let us indeed get the days of rest, but without compromising ourselves, misleading the natives, and insulting God.

THE TEMPLE OF JUGGERNATH.

For several years attempts have been made to induce the Indian Government to give up its connexion with the great Temple of Juggernaut in Orissa. The Pilgrim Tax was abolished in 1840; and the Temple Estate, which had been managed for forty years by the Collector of Pooree, was given back in 1843. The money donation since continued, 23,321 rupees, was a sum belonging of right to the temple; being partly the representative of land-endowments, and partly a compensation for some old taxes that had been abolished. The payment of the money being a great scandal, and also being misunderstood by Europeans as well as by Hindoos, it was desirable in every way to commute it, either by a single payment or by exchanging it for an estate of similar annual value. The latter plan has been adopted, and the following DEED has just been signed by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, by which an estate is placed in the hands of the temple authorities, and the Government announces its determination to interfere no more with the temple's affairs. This measure has been brought about, we believe, chiefly through the efforts of the Baptist missionaries in Orissa, and of the Calcutta Missionary Conference, who have on repeated occasion, brought the subject before the Court at home, the Indian Government, and the House of Commons. It is matter for great thankfulness that the connexion has been severed at last; and we trust that the important precedent now set may be followed in the case of every other temple, which of right receives from the Government large sums of money, to the dishonour of God and the injury of men's souls.

WHEREAS it has for many years been the desire of Government that its connexion with the TEMPLE OF

the unbelieving fear that fidelity to God will bring danger and rebellion, and be ashamed of its little faith in the protection of Him who has promised to honour them that honour him. It ought immediately to withdraw from the support of everything that is idolatrous or un-Christian. It ought to adopt the Christian standard of morality as its guide in all legislation, and in the spirit and aim with which the Executive discharges its trust. It might fearlessly adopt the statement of Mr. Montgomery as its own; and while avowing its determination never to persecute or bribe men to be Christians, it might boldly declare that the religion of the Bible is the religion which it loves, by which it will be guided, and which it will gladly see all its subjects embrace of their own accord. Native Christians would then no longer be spurned as they have been by Lord Canning and Mr. Halliday; but at least be considered as good as the fanatic Mussulmans.

2.—PATRONAGE OF CASTE.

Few in England, who are without Indian experience, can imagine the intense tenacity with which the Hindoos cleave to their caste system. It has come down to them from the earliest days of their religion, is intertwined with every element of their faith and every element in their practice, with all their public conduct and with all their social connexions, in fact with every notion and every act of private, social, and public life. It divides man from man, family from family, neighbour from neighbour, by barriers that are impassable. It crushes all feelings of benevolence, mutual kindness, and compassion. It cuts society into distinct sections that can have none of those relations with each other in which ties of affection and friendship are formed. Different castes must not eat with each other; must not give each other water to drink; and above all cannot intermarry. They cannot regard each other as fellow-men, having one blood, formed on one plan, and devoted to one end. The system professes to have a divine origin, and to find its base in the authority of the most ancient and most revered Shastres. All Hindoos accept it as such, and obey its stern demands as irrevocable and placed beyond all question. As a matter of argument its divine origin may be most successfully denied: its authority may be questioned; its history may be shown to be confused, doubtful, and self-contradictory; its rules have varied to an extreme degree at different periods; its own followers have at times risen up against its tyrannical claims; it is a contrivance intended to secure the predominance of the lordly Brahmin at the cost of the hardworking Sudras; it is cruel, unjust, destructive. All these things may be stated, argued, PROVED. But do not therefore think you have destroyed caste and proved it to be a NOTHING. Your judgment may deem it so; you may laugh at its absurdities, and reject it for its self-contradictions. But you have not touched the Hindoo. You may silence the logic of his head; but he believes it still with his whole heart; and though you may deem him injured by the system in every way in all his dearest interests, every Hindoo will consider that you ruin him utterly if you take his caste away. So tenaciously do all hold to it, that where it is compelled to bend to altered circumstances, they change the mode of its application, but keep the spirit still.

With this cruel and unrighteous system, so insulting to God, so injurious to men, the Indian Government has never openly interfered; it has been afraid to do so. On the contrary, it has in some points, especially with the native army, taken special pains to maintain its rules. In proclamations it has avowed a tender care of the system, and a determination to do nothing that could break it. Numerous officers in the army have recently shown how much deference has been paid to it; as in the choice of the men, high caste men and Brahmins being preferred to others; or in their marching, so as to prevent service beyond the sea; in digging trenches and the like. In many ways the convenience of the service has had to give way to the demands of caste. This is much more the case with the Bengal army than with those of Bombay and Madras. Not long since Sir Henry Somerset, at Bombay, issued an order, disallowed by Lord Elphinstone, declaring that high caste men were to be preferred as recruits. The latest instance of this deference was seen a few days ago. In December last, when the 70th N.I. volunteered for China, and the Mauritius steamer was prepared for them, one of the commissariat officers begged the men to go on board and see if the arrangements for securing the purity of their cooking and water were perfectly sufficient. The men said they had no doubt it was all correct; but the officer insisted on their going and judging for themselves! All this was done after the terrible consequences which have been developed from this yielding to caste during the past year.

Caste has always been troublesome to Europeans; but much more in former days than at present. Hindoo servants would not pull the punka over a piece of beef; or touch soap or tallow candles; and the more these things were listened to, the more exacting they became. On the contrary, when steadily resisted, the natives have found it easy to give in. Where their customs were not assailed violently, and where common sense and kindness were employed, innovations have frequently been admitted, and the old customs gradually removed. Intercourse with Europeans is in this way gradually producing changes in native notions and practices, which will in time give them an entirely new face.

In all missionary schools, and even in those of Government, Brahmins at first objected to sit with Sudras of the different castes; but the practice was defended and enforced, and now an objection on that score is quite unknown. It was the same in the medical colleges: many examinations of bones and organs in dead subjects, and of secretions in living ones, were objected to by the students on caste grounds; but it was urged that these things were done professionally, and were not degrading in themselves; and ere long the objections ceased entirely.

There need be no fear about acting in this way, where common sense explanations and a kind spirit accompany the attempt to resist the caste rule. Natives are very accommodating: when they find that on good grounds you do not intend to give in, within a certain range, they allow caste to adjust its demands according to your will, and they themselves submit. When Lord Amherst was Governor-General, he one day ordered an Oriya bearer to throw away some soapy water. The man declined on the ground that the touch of soap defiled him. His lordship, amazed at the absurdity of the thing to a servant in his position, commanded that the basin should remain untouched, and if in three days the man himself did not empty it, every Oriya bearer in Government House should be discharged. The man consulted his caste mates. An immense meeting was held on the plain in Calcutta, and it was decided that for the future soap might be touched without pollution being incurred!

The Government has been itself obliged to compel such innovations. In former years, all prisoners in gaol were allowed to cook for themselves, with a view to keeping their caste intact. But it was found that the men spent half the day in cleaning and polishing their vessels, and completing arrangements for their two comfortable meals: no work was done, and the cost of their maintenance fell wholly on the State. To avoid this, the messing system was introduced: the prisoners were divided into messes, and one man cooks for all. There was resistance at first: in one gaol the enraged prisoners set upon the magistrate during one of his usual visits to the gaol, and killed him with their brass pots. But ultimately the system was established in all the gaols, together with prison labour, and now numbers of these places pay all their expenses fully. Formerly only a few of the regiments were enlisted for general service, and could be compelled to cross the sea if required by military duty, the army being originally only a land army, because of the old Hindoo rule, that no cooking is allowed in a floating boat. Even their general service regiments, however, did not really lose caste after crossing the seas, military duty being considered to excuse the proceeding: and eventually Lord Dalhousie ordered that all enlistments should be without limit, and be for general service wherever required. There was some dissatisfaction among the older Sepoys; but enlistments were as numerous as before. Encroachments may be made with safety upon this cruel and tyrannical system, if made firmly, but judiciously, especially now that the great defender of caste, the Brahmin army of Bengal, has been swept away: for they are the only body that could or would fight on its behalf. Besides, it is right to oppose the unrighteous claims which the system makes; it is right to stand by the law of that God who made all men of ONE BLOOD, and to prefer it to the unholy laws made by the selfishness of men. What then ought the Government to do? It ought not to persecute caste: to pass laws against it: or to make its observance penal (as some have desired). But it ought not to sanction its observance, to pet and foster it among their subjects, to pay it deference, and help to maintain it. It may act in three ways.

a. The Government should ignore the existence of caste as a thing to be deferred to. Except for purely statistical purposes, the caste of a man should not appear in army lists, in school and college catalogues, in the description of witnesses in courts of justice, in the list of native Government officers and assistants, in the classification of prisoners in gaols. If the people themselves estimate it as of any worth in these situations, let the Government show that it takes no account of it whatsoever. Let it ignore the fact that such a thing exists, the natives will in time learn to ignore it too.

b. Let the Government proclaim everywhere, that in all branches of public employment, in the civil courts, in the police, in the army (if there is one), in the public works, in education, and in all other employments, a man will be appointed solely for his peculiar fitness for that particular post: that that fitness, arising from qualifications of body, mind, and heart, is the only test allowed; and that caste, as such, has no weight whatever.

c. Let caste and caste-obligations never be pleaded as a valid excuse for not performing any special duty required by the exigencies of the public service. And if any one should feel that those duties cannot be performed and caste be preserved, let him save his conscience by quitting the service. In all these ways, taking merely the negative ground of ignoring the very existence of caste, and refusing to acknowledge or submit to its influence, the Government may do its duty to society, by having no part or lot in maintaining that cruel system which has crushed the country for so many years.

3.—PATRONAGE OF IDOLATRY.

On this important question, I judge from numerous statements made at home, that a great deal of misapprehension exists; just as it exists among natives in India

itself. The Indian Government is still connected with idol temples, Brahmins, mosques, and tombs; the settlement made of the matter several years back is any thing but satisfactory; immense room is still left for improvement; but things are by no means so bad as they were twenty years ago.

Formerly the connexion between the Government and the false religions of India was of the closest and most intimate kind. At the commencement of the present century, when Indian society was suffering from the spread of infidelity, so current after the French Revolution, and was filled with Scott Warrings, Twinings, and "Hindoo Stewarts," the Government of Madras, urged on by men like Mr. Place, began to interfere on behalf of the Pagodas, which were rapidly decaying from the peculations of the priests; and with the full consent of the people began to take under its direct management the care of the Pagoda lands; the appointment of the priests, officers, and attendants; the proper performance of the ceremonies and festivals; and interest itself in securing prosperity for the "shrines of their ancient religions." It was first then, that, on the conquest of the Mahratta empire, the various gifts and endowments which had been made by the Peishwa, at Poonah, were taken up and continued by the East India Company. In this way the Temple of Juggernath first came under Lord Wellesley's cognizance, and it was at the request of the priests that he ordered money to be advanced for some approaching ceremonies, and established a tax on pilgrims in order to reimburse the Government. A similar tax had long been in operation at GAYA, which gave the Government considerable profit; and as it found the taste of such money not unpleasant, a third tax was established at Allahabad, in 1810. The example once set, the precedent once established, nothing remained but to extend the system; and it was established to an awful extent over all the Presidency of Madras, and in much of the Presidencies of Bombay and Bengal. It spread over a wider surface, and descended to a depth of infamy which few of your readers have ever imagined. The number of officers who submitted to the system without scruple, who "bowed the knee to Baal" without fear, and received personal profits from their share of the management was very large. The number of those who cried out against it, and sought in every way to get rid of the burden, may be counted upon one's fingers. It went on, though latterly amid much opposition, till twenty years ago. During that long period of daring insult to the God who had given India into our hands, about nine thousand temples, mosques, and shrines, were brought into Government hands. All their lands were managed by Government officers, and the income fully devoted to the service of these false religions. Every appointment in the temples was made directly by the collector: the painter, the musician, the cook, the worshipping Brahmin, were each paid a monthly salary in the collector's office. Thousands of wretched dancing women were also appointed to them, and paid by the same officer. The offerings were received into his custody, and all the idol jewels were registered in his court. The daily service, the special ceremonies, the great annual festivals, were all ordered and paid for under his signature. At his command hundreds of thousands of unwilling peasants were yearly brought from their homes, and compelled gratuitously to drag the idol's car. And many of these Government officers thought it no shame to be present at the principal feasts and show an interest in their proceedings and their prosperity. One renegade from the Gospel, for several years used to precede the car of Juggernath, on one of the idol's elephants, and waving his hat, exclaim before the people, "Victory to Juggernath!" Others presented gifts to the shrines: and to this day, the priests in certain temples, point to the jewels and say, "This was given by Mr. Place," "That was offered by Mr. Garrett."

During all these years salutes were constantly fired on festival days, even when they fell upon the Christian Sabbath: and English soldiers, officers and men, were compelled to be present when native princes went in state to visit the shrines they honoured. Brahmins were fed by thousands, and uttered special *muntrums*, or holy texts, on cases of emergency. In seasons of drought, prayers used to be offered to the idol *Varuna*, in order to procure rain, by Brahmins who stood up to their necks in pools of water. At one festival, the degradation of common sense was so deep, that in the very offices themselves, the account-books and public records were placed in rows upon the desks, and all the native officials bowed down and worshipped them!

It was natural that with all this care the system of idolatry began to rear its head, and exhibit a splendour and external prosperity which it had not enjoyed for many long years. The temple lands yielded a revenue larger than ever before. The temple buildings were all kept in excellent repair; the tanks were cleansed from their dank weeds and foul water; the cars were kept neat, but were not freed from their indecent sculptures and pictures; all offices in the temples were kept filled and were paid regularly; the daily services were duly performed; the annual feasts were celebrated with pomp and show. The officers of a "Christian Government," themselves professing to be Christians, devoted their judgment, their honesty, their influence, their earnestness, their official authority, to the maintenance of a wicked system of idolatry, delusive to men

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Oh! the horrors of that guilty time! We stand amazed at the thought that such an awful state of things could ever be. It seems impossible that Christian men could ever so degrade themselves by taking such an active share in all the details of that senseless system. And we wonder that the God of heaven, who was so grievously insulted, so continuously insulted, by these abominable and unprincipled proceedings, did not rise up in avenging might, and with one burst of righteous indignation overwhelm the guilty Government that had dared so to abuse the trust committed to its hands, so grossly mislead the people whose interests it was to foster, and to insult and trample on His own holy name. The punishment has come at last; and has come from the great Brahmin army whose gods and whose caste the guilty Government so long sought to honour. Oh! that the bitter lesson may, like the punishment of Israel in Babylon, be so blessed as to bring the folly which required it to a complete end.

The money gain to the revenue was by no means small from these transactions. In the Madras Presidency the Pagoda funds were kept quite separate from other expenditure; the income of the temples paid all the annual expenses, and there was a small surplus, gradually accumulating: in June, 1847, the surplus amounted to 135,000*l*. The Parliamentary papers say nothing about such surplus in Bombay. But in Bengal, the three pilgrim taxes of Gaya, Allahabad, and Juggernath had given to the revenue, before they were abolished, a money profit of more than a MILLION AND A HALF.

The open, unblushing support of idolatry which I have described, no longer remains so prominent as it once was. Lord Glenelg's great despatch of 1833 was the first public step towards a change; though both the Court at home and the Government in India refused to carry it out. The House of Commons interfered in 1838, and on the orders of Sir J. Hobhouse, the pilgrim taxes were abolished; and all interference in the management of the temples peremptorily ordered to cease. The change which took place was this. All open connexion with the idolatry was abandoned. The temples, their lands and their endowments, were handed over to native committees, who were to act as trustees; and the establishments were appointed solely by them. Thus the Temple of Juggernath was given to the Rajah of Khoordah; the temple at Tripetty to the Mahant or chief priest; the temple of Srirangam to three native landholders; and so with others. But the money claimed from the Government by the temples or by Brahmins and others, was paid as before; and, indeed, in nearly all instances, continues to be paid to this day. The first native committees were of course appointed by the Government. But the question soon arose, on the occurrence of a vacancy in the committee, Who is to fill it up? This was referred to the Governor of Bombay, who at once saw the importance of the reference, and forbade the collector to interfere, declaring that the natives must manage entirely for themselves. In Madras, the Governor permitted the collectors to fill the vacancies, and they go on appointing the trustees of those great temples to this hour. This is a most important point to keep in mind at the present time: for it maintains a close and intimate connexion with the system still.

How stands the idolatry question there just now? *a. First:* In a very large number of cases, the sums of money formerly paid by the Government continue to be paid still. They amount in all to nearly 170,000*l*. annually.

Puri for "holy food" . . .	£640
North-West Provinces . . .	11,050
Bombay Presidency . . .	69,850
Madras Presidency . . .	87,678
	£169,227

These sums are paid in many places to shrines, tombs, and mosques scattered all over the country. It appears that the whole 9,000 temples and the like still are connected with the Government in this way: though when the money is once paid, the Government ask no account of the manner in which it is spent. These sums, however, are not entirely gifts of benevolence. The Government, it is true, have at times given new endowments; but the majority of these sums are the continuation of endowments granted by former kings; or they represent the income of Pagoda lands, resumed by the Government. In the latter case, the shrines have a right to them; the Government merely being the channel through which the money is conveyed. This fact is not widely known either among Hindoos or Christians; and the SCANDAL is just as great as if the Government gave the money of its own accord. It bears that appearance, produces that effect, and ought therefore to be got rid of.

b. Again, the connexion is maintained in other ways. There is a regulation in Bengal, of 1803, according to which vacancies in the office of CAZY, in certain Mohammedan cities, have to be filled up by the English judge. The Cazy is indeed the official who performs Mussulman marriages, but he also performs some special religious services, and ought not, therefore, to be appointed by

Government. Mr. Robertson, the Judge of Bareilly, who was so cruelly shot by the Sepoys in the mutiny at that station, felt this so strongly that he refused to fill up a vacancy when it was brought to his notice.

Another regulation, prevalent both in Bengal and Madras, orders that "all endowments for the support of mosques, Hindoo temples, and colleges, and for other pious and beneficial purposes," are placed under the superintendence of the Board of Revenue, not of the ordinary civil courts, in order that the Board may see them appropriated "to the real intent and will of the grantor." Thus again is the Government called upon specially to interfere for the faithful preservation of Hindooism, where no such care is shown to the interests of Christianity. Many able officers of Government have objected to it, but for a want of a substitute the regulation disgraces the statute-book still.

c. Again, so tenacious is this connexion with the native shrines, that one frequently comes across isolated cases of it, never once mentioned in the Parliamentary returns, and never appearing openly in Government accounts. The other day, most unexpectedly, I received a letter from a friend, informing me of eighty-one temples and mosques in the district of Terhoot, in Bengal, receiving annually Rs. 1,740 from the collector's treasury. A few years ago there were 169 temples receiving Rs. 3,400. We never heard of this case before. We have heard, too, of temples at Gaya, similarly situated, temples in Jessore, temples at Cuttack, all receiving money, no one knows why, and no one knows how long. Some short time ago we heard of Brahmins worshipping Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, in the Company's salt godowns at Hidgelee, in order to make the salt trade lucky; they drew monthly salaries for this worship! We heard too of similar worship being offered at Patna, on the departure of the opium fleet for Calcutta! all to secure the Government against loss. I am happy to say that these things were at once stopped, on our bringing them to the notice of a Christian officer, holding authority in the Revenue department. These isolated cases show how deeply seated and tenacious this great evil is. Sometimes it is not the Government that thus acts. Often have regimental officers, of their own accord, subscribed for the celebration of some idolatrous festival by their Sepoys; and even joined them in the feasting, dances, and songs with which it was accompanied. Recently I heard that several of the Government officers in Burmah have thus given donations towards the regilding of the great Pagodas in those provinces. We must have not only a change in the laws, but in the spirit and character of the men, before we shall get rid of the evil altogether.

WHAT, THEN, IS TO BE DONE?

1. Considering the imperfect information hitherto made public, and the quiet way in which the evil was spread in former days, while it remained unnoticed, I think we should ask from the House of Commons that they institute a special inquiry as to the amount of money still paid to temples, mosques, tombs, Brahmins, and priests, in every district of our Indian empire, under whatever name or designation; showing *how much* is paid, *why* it is paid, and *when* the payment began. If rigidly enforced and properly arranged, we should learn clearly the point at which we have now arrived. I was glad to see that Mr. Kinnaird had moved for fresh "returns," later than those printed in 1851. Those returns were most imperfect and incomplete. Several questions still pending in 1849 were omitted altogether: "Were the large Pagoda estates transferred to the native committees as well as the small ones?" "What became of the disputed Pagoda balances?" "Why do the Madras officers still fill up vacancies among the temple trustees?" On these points nothing was said, though the papers must be in the India House. Unless care is taken they may omit valuable papers in the return first ordered. I think, therefore, it would be well to follow the matter up by asking for an entirely new inquiry into the money spent in every district of the Indian empire; requiring returns from every collector and every deputy-collector through the whole of India.

2. Having gained this information it will not be difficult to get rid of the payments altogether. All small payments to buildings or individuals which may be claimed as a *right*, should be commuted by one single payment. All gifts to individuals, whether as from the present or former Governments, might be treated in the same way. All large sums, *belonging of right* to the shrines, should be commuted by an endowment of land, of which in the Madras Presidency the Government has a great deal to spare. A good precedent in the matter has just been furnished in the case of Juggernath. The deed which gives over a part of the Khoordah estate to the Temple of Puri, in lieu of the Rs. 23,321 hitherto paid, has just been signed: the money represented old endowments existing under the Mahratta Kings; and the temple has simply been replaced in the circumstances by which it was surrounded in their days. This result has been brought about by the steady perseverance of the Orissa missionaries, and of the Calcutta Missionary Conference who joined them in their opposition to the former payments. If the same thing is done throughout South India, the terrible scandal now existing may soon be entirely removed. In Ceylon all connexion between Buddhism and the Government has long since been severed.

4.—HINDOO HOLIDAYS.

A further illustration of the mode in which the Govern-

ment of India, and English society generally, are mixed up with the superstitions of the country, and a point in which alteration is desirable, is the observance of Hindoo holidays. These holidays are the days on which the chief festivals fall throughout the year. They are ordered and observed as public holidays in all the civil courts and Government offices, and to a very large extent are kept as such in merchants' offices and in public schools. On these days business is suspended, the banks and treasuries are closed, and all money engagements, especially at the time of the long holiday in September, are provided for before the holidays commence. Special worship is offered by the people to the gods to whom the days are devoted: and nautches, or native dances, are frequently held at the houses of the most wealthy. Twenty years ago, at the great festival of the worship of Durga, the European community were specially invited, and it was fashionable to attend. Shame was it that year after year judges, civilians, and soldiers, barristers, merchants, and heads of offices, gathered in these native houses to see the idol-dances and share the idol feast. There is not much of it however now.

The number of Hindoo holidays in the year is about *thirty-five*; given by Government in addition to the Sabbath-day. It strikes one at once that to give holidays on days of heathen festivals reflects honour upon the festival, and associates with it ideas of rest, ease, and pleasure. Are not these things objectionable? Why should such honour be given? In arguing that it should not, I would point out, first, that the Hindoos themselves never avow that, on their festival days, rest is enjoined from the ordinary business of every-day life. They like it, and take it; but it is not commanded; and the bazaars are all busy, the shops all open, and even a brisker trade is driven on those holidays than on other days. Rest for the sake of worship, and in order to give it a right tone, is a Christian idea, and belongs to the Sabbath divinely appointed. Again: it is by no means difficult to set these holidays aside. In several merchants' offices very few holidays are given. Several of the attorneys and barristers give none at all. A few of the uncovenanted heads in Government offices also require their clerks to be present on those days as well as others. Missionary schools give no holiday on those days; though, from the fact that the breakfast of native families is later, and a large number of their scholars come to school without any at all, they usually give a half-holiday. In the Free Church Institution during the past year they gave up even that. It would not be therefore at all difficult, in Calcutta and other large towns at least, to set these days of festival aside, and withdraw from them the distinction by which they are now marked. The idols should be ignored as well as the system of caste.

It may be objected that holidays are more required in India than in England. To this it must be answered that, while the statement is perfectly true, there is no need of fixing holidays for real rest upon days when Hindoo idols are worshipped. We should get the holidays by all means; but let them be fixed at proper intervals, not as they now are, irregularly and without system; and let us not in them honour even indirectly the idols from whose service the people have already suffered so much injury. Let us indeed get the days of rest, but without compromising ourselves, misleading the natives, and insulting God.

THE TEMPLE OF JUGGERNATH.

For several years attempts have been made to induce the Indian Government to give up its connexion with the great Temple of Juggernaut in Orissa. The Pilgrim Tax was abolished in 1840; and the Temple Estate, which had been managed for forty years by the Collector of Pooree, was given back in 1843. The money donation since continued, 23,321 rupees, was a sum belonging of right to the temple; being partly the representative of land-endowments, and partly a compensation for some old taxes that had been abolished. The payment of the money being a great scandal, and also being misunderstood by Europeans as well as by Hindoos, it was desirable in every way to commute it, either by a single payment or by exchanging it for an estate of similar annual value. The latter plan has been adopted, and the following DEED has just been signed by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, by which an estate is placed in the hands of the temple authorities, and the Government announces its determination to interfere no more with the temple's affairs. This measure has been brought about, we believe, chiefly through the efforts of the Baptist missionaries in Orissa, and of the Calcutta Missionary Conference, who have on repeated occasion, brought the subject before the Court at home, the Indian Government, and the House of Commons. It is matter for great thankfulness that the connexion has been severed at last; and we trust that the important precedent now set may be followed in the case of every other temple, which of right receives from the Government large sums of money, to the dishonour of God and the injury of men's souls.

WHEREAS it has for many years been the desire of Government that its connexion with the TEMPLE OF

JUGGERNATH should cease entirely and for ever. And in pursuance of such desire various measures have at different times been taken for the severance of such connexion; and WHEREAS it has been considered necessary for the purpose of completing the said desire of Government, that the money allowance now annually paid from the treasury of Pooree should be commuted for an equivalent in land; the following recital of the measures referred to, and the orders of Government in respect to the said commutation, is hereby recorded.

2. Previous to the enactment of Act X. of 1840, the expenses of the temple averaging about Rs.53,000 per annum were paid by the Government, who levied a tax on pilgrims, and was also in possession of the former endowments of the temple, which had gradually been resumed soon after the conquest of the province of Orissa in 1803.

3. By the ACT in question the pilgrim tax was abolished, and the management of the affairs of the Temple made over to the Rajah of Khoordah for the time being; the annual payments on account of its expenses being continued as before.

4. In 1843 the estate of Satais Hazaree Mehal, yielding an annual revenue of Rs.17,420, and which was the last remaining portion of the landed endowment of the Temple at the time of the acquisition of the province in 1803, was made over to the Rajah of Khoordah as Superintendent of the Temple; and the annual money payment by Government was thenceforth reduced to Rs.35,738 7 6.

5. In 1845, on an investigation into the nature of the payments to the Juggernath Temple, it was proved that Rs.23,321 represented partly certain assignments of revenue granted by former Rajahs of Berar, and constituting therefore an endowment, and partly certain Sayer duties formerly collected on behalf of the Temple, and on account of which compensation was due in the same way as to the other landowners of the province; while the balance was merely a donation which the Government was not bound to continue the payment of, especially as the pilgrim tax had been abolished. It was therefore decided that the annual payment should be reduced to Rs.23,321; this being the amount of the resumed endowment and compensation for Sayer referred to.

In 1856, owing to the culpable neglect of the Superintendent of the Temple, it was found necessary for the protection of the pilgrims to appoint a police establishment at an annual expense of Rs.6,804; which being deducted from the annual payment by Government, this latter sum became reduced to Rs.16,517.

7. The Government has now decided on making no more annual payments after the close of the present Umlee year, 1264, but to transfer from the commencement of 1265 Umlee, certain lands yielding an equivalent to the sum of Rs.16,517.

8. No inquiry will hereafter be made by any of the officers of Government, under any circumstances whatever, regarding alleged injury to the crops or to the land by drought, inundation, or other cause.

9. The lands thus transferred are to be made over to the Rajah of Khoordah, as Superintendent of the Temple of Juggernath, to be held by him in trust for the Temple, and also by his successors, so long as they shall continue to hold the said office of superintendent.

10. In accordance with the orders of Government, the following lands belonging to the estate called Killah Khoordah, the property of Government, are now transferred for the purposes mentioned, viz. :-

1. Whole of Zillah Tupung	Rs.14,327	1	3½
2. Out of Zillah Ramessur the following three villages :-			
1. Gur Muntare	740	1	10½
2. Gur Purrichal	1,612	8	7
3. Mavazest Múdhupore, &c.	147	9	1½

Rs.16,827 4 10½

The total sudder jumma [annual rent] according to a settlement recently made, being Rs.16,827 4 10½; being an increase over the present annual payment of Rs.310 4 10½, which is granted in consideration :

1st. Of the average annual losses from inundation in Zillah Tupung, being Rs.104 9 4.

2nd. Of the sudder expenses of collection being Rs.17 a month, or per annum Rs.204.

3rd. Of the difference being a fractional one, viz. : Rs.1 11 6½. [11]

11. These lands having been recently settled, and engagements entered into with the Surburakurs and tenantry, any interference therewith will be illegal; no one can be ousted so long as rent is paid according to such engagements, and no increased rent can be demanded.

12. The engagements referred to are recorded in two registry books, one of which will be made over to the Rajah of Khoordah on his requiring it from the Collector of Pooree.

13. AND IT IS HEREBY DECLARED, that from the time of the transfer of the said lands, the Government have no further connexion, direct or indirect, with the affairs of the Temple of Juggernath, its management, revenues, or otherwise. AND that the Rajah of Khoordah, in his capacity of superintendent, is solely responsible for the due application of its revenues, and the due administration of its affairs.

ECCLIASTICAL QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

This day (Wednesday), at the sitting of the House of Commons, at twelve o'clock, Mr. Packe was to meet the proposal to go into committee on the Church-rate Abolition Bill with an amendment that it be postponed for six months. Mr. Puller has since given notice that on the motion for going into committee he will move as an amendment :-

That, in the opinion of this house, it is desirable that provision should be made for the repair of existing churches, and for the building of new churches in populous places, and for the maintenance of churchyards, by substituting for the Church-rates, which it is the object of the said bill to abolish, an annual rent-charge upon all hereditaments assessed to the relief of the poor; the amount of such rent-charge to be a fixed and uniform poundage on the rateable value of such hereditaments, and to be made a charge on the owners of the same by allowing all occupiers, who not being owners, shall have paid any part of such rent-charge, to deduct an equal poundage in the payment of their rent; the proceeds of such rent-charge in each diocese to form a central fund from which grants may be made towards the repair of old and the erection of new churches,

and the maintenance of churchyards, in such manner as to obtain the largest amount of church accommodation for the poorer inhabitants of such diocese, and to be administered by a body of persons elected for that purpose.

We suppose that Mr. Puller has taken the place of Mr. Packe. At all events we may expect an interesting debate. Should the House, as is likely, resolve to go into committee by a large majority, Lord Robert Cecil will move an amendment on the first clause, limiting its operation to boroughs and corporate towns. Mr. Griffiths has also given notice of an amendment which revives the old plan of exempting "registered" Dissenters from Church-rates, excluding them from any rights as members of the Church of England, and providing that in all parishes in which Church-rates may not have been levied for ten years from the passing of the act, no Church-rate shall in future be made.* Vigorous efforts are being made to obtain a large attendance of members on the occasion.

Mr. Spooner has once more revived his Maynooth hobby. His motion for a committee of the whole house on the subject stood for yesterday (Tuesday), but has been postponed to to-morrow week. When it comes on Mr. M'Mahon, an Irish and Roman Catholic member, will move as an amendment the insertion of the following words between the words "fund" and "due" :- "And also the Acts for the Endowment of the Established Church in Ireland, with a view to the complete abolition of Tithes." So far as we are aware, Mr. M'Mahon brings forward his amendment on his own responsibility, without any concert with those who have hitherto been active in the Irish Church question.

CHURCH-RATE RECORD.

TICHFIELD.—In this parish, until last year, although the rate had been objected to in vestry, it had never been formally contested, but in the vestry of 1857, on the usual motion for a rate, an amendment proposing a voluntary subscription was made; but, being negatived, a poll was demanded, at the close of which there appeared a majority against the rate. This year, notwithstanding threats of "organised forces," and "stern determination to carry the rate," the notice for vestry meeting at Easter contained no allusion to a Church-rate—a thing quite unprecedented in the annals of the parish—and it is whispered that the "carrying-round-the-hat" system has, notwithstanding its awkward name, proved no unworthy substitute for a compulsory rate.

ALFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE.—At a vestry meeting held on Thursday, the 8th inst., a rate of 3d. in the pound was proposed by the churchwardens. The following amendment was moved by Mr. Nutsey, and seconded, "That the churchwardens be requested to apply to the parishioners for subscriptions to meet the expenses of the coming year, and that the vestry adjourn three weeks to enable them to do so." Twenty-two were for and twenty-one against the amendment. A poll was demanded, which took place the following day, when the numbers were just equal—134 votes for and 134 votes against the amendment. After a scrutiny, four votes for and three against were cancelled, which left the churchwardens a majority of one. Six of the votes in the majority were disputed, being tendered by the station-master for the railway company, but without the authority of the company. If these votes are struck out there is a majority of five in favour of the amendment. It should be added that a large majority of the ratepayers are opposed to Church-rates, but the plurality of votes on the other side told very much against them.

STRADISHALL, SUFFOLK.—In this village, after an attempt to impose a rate, it was at last agreed that the amount required should be raised by voluntary subscriptions. There is only one Dissenting ratepayer residing in the parish. Much praise is due to him for his vigilance and successful exertion in bringing the affair to such an honourable termination.

LIBERATION SOCIETY MEETINGS.

DERBY.—On the 12th inst. a deputation from the society, consisting of the Secretary and Dr. Foster, addressed a public meeting held in the hall of the Mechanics' Institute, Derby. Mr. W. Jeffery Etches was chairman, and the Rev. Messrs. Griffiths, Stevenson, Spurgeon, and Longden spoke in addition to the deputation, whose statements and appeals were responded to with great heartiness.

SCARBOROUGH.—Mr. Carvell Williams delivered an address in the Town Hall on the 13th. The chairman was Mr. Baker, a Quaker, who occasioned much amusement by inviting the audience to attend at the sale of a fatted calf, of which the Church had just deprived him, in an adjoining parish. Scarborough itself has been free from Church-rates for twenty-five years, but Mr. Williams strongly insisted that it was the duty of voluntaries living in such towns to emancipate their struggling fellow-voluntaries in less favoured places. The Rev. Dr. Evans and the Rev. Messrs. Baggallie and Backhouse, with Mr. Rowntree, also addressed the meeting, and acknowledged the great obligations under which the Dissenting body lay to the Liberation Society.

STOCKTON.—Mr. Williams lectured here, in the Borough Hall, on the 14th, William Bennington, Esq., presiding. In this town a Church-rate is levied, under an act of Queen Anne's reign, by a select

* Mr. Griffiths has since substituted "five" for "ten" years.

vestry, of which only male communicants can be members. This led Mr. Williams to comment on some of the recent proposals for the settlement, or, rather, unsettlement, of the Church-rate question, which, he showed, would leave matters worse than they are at present.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Availing themselves of Mr. Williams's visit to the district, the committee of the Newcastle and Gateshead Religious Freedom Society held their annual meeting on the 15th inst., when the members took tea together at the Crown Hotel. The Rev. J. Pringle, chairman of the society, presided, and Mr. Potts, one of the secretaries, reported the proceedings of the local society, which had taken action in respect to both local matters and others of wider interest. The Rev. T. Pottinger and Mr. J. Ridley moved the adoption of the report, and Messrs. Bradburn and Grant the appointment of the committee and officers for the year. Mr. Williams then delivered an address, which, we observe, the *Northern Daily Express* has reported at great length. Afterwards Mr. H. A. Wilkinson and Mr. Whinfield proposed, and it was heartily agreed, "That this meeting regard with pleasure the visit of J. Carvell Williams, Esq., to this town, and gives its cordial thanks to him for the valuable communications he has made on this occasion; and begs through him to assure the Liberation of Religion Society of its continued confidence and approval of the society's general policy, and the eminently practical character of its operations, and of its gratification at the great success attending the society's labours." Mr. J. L. Angus and Mr. Drunsfield then proposed thanks to the chairman.

SUNDERLAND.—On the 16th a highly respectable and influential meeting, convened by circular, was held at Walton's Hotel, when there were present, among others, the Revs. D. Horne, G. C. Maitland, A. A. Rees, J. Morris, J. Parker, E. Browning, W. Parkes, A. Keene, and Messrs. J. Hills, W. Wight, J. Halcro, A. Cameron, J. Young, W. Abbey, A. Keene, J. Stokoe, T. Davidson, W. Thackray, Charles Wilson, J. Peacock, R. Swan, William Hall, and J. Atkinson. Mr. J. Halcro was called to the chair, and briefly introduced Mr. Carvell Williams, who detailed the operations of the society since its formation, and the success which had crowned their efforts. Mr. Thackray and Mr. Hall expressed their obligations to Mr. Williams for the information he had rendered them in their late struggle against the imposition of Church-rates in Monkwearmouth. Mr. Hills said that the movements of the society had been of a most important character, and he had great pleasure in moving a resolution for the formation of a local committee in Sunderland, to co-operate with the London committee. Mr. W. Hall seconded the resolution, which was carried. Mr. Wight then moved that the gentlemen present constitute that committee, with power to add to their number. Mr. Halcro acting as treasurer, and Mr. Thackray as secretary. Mr. Browning seconded the motion, which was carried, and the meeting separated.

THE THREE DENOMINATIONS.

The annual meeting of the General Body of Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the Three Denominations (Presbyterian, Independent, and Baptist), residing in and about the cities of London and Westminster, was held at the Congregational Library, Blomfield-street, on Tuesday, April 13th, the Rev. J. Kennedy, M.A., in the chair. After the usual routine business was transacted, the following resolutions on topics of public interest were adopted.

It was moved by the Rev. THOMAS JAMES, seconded by the Rev. FREDERICK TRESTRAIL, and resolved :-

1. That, in the judgment of this body, the Church-rate is a tax alike objectionable in principle and mischievous in operation, and ought to be abolished.

2. That in the judgment of this body, no compromise in respect of this ecclesiastical exaction ought to be accepted by Nonconformists, but that, with the single exception of cases in which money has been borrowed on the security of the rate, it ought to be totally abolished.

3. That this body therefore fully approve of the bill introduced into the House of Commons by Sir John Trelawny for the abolition of Church-rates, and do petition both Houses of the Legislature that the same may pass into a law.

4. That in view of the multiplied and persevering efforts which have been made to obtain the abolition of this obnoxious impost, the great extent to which local exertions have been abolished and are still abolishing it, and the rapid advance of public opinion in relation to it, as evinced by repeated votes of the House of Commons, it is, in the opinion of this body, high time that the social irritation to which it gives rise should be thoroughly and finally allayed by an act of justice which cannot long be postponed.

It was moved by the Rev. WILLIAM CAMPBELL, seconded by the Rev. WILLIAM MIALI, and resolved :-

1. That, in the judgment of this body, the question of the legality of marriage with a deceased wife's sister is one which deeply concerns the domestic happiness and the social morals of the British people.

2. That, in the judgment of this body, the marriage of a man with the sister of his deceased wife is not forbidden by divine law, and ought not to be forbidden by human law.

3. That, in the judgment of this body, the pressure of the English law which declares such marriages invalid is much aggravated by the opinion of Mr. Justice Cresswell, lately given to the effect that such marriages, although performed in a country where they are lawful, are not consequently lawful in this country; a judicial opinion most painfully affecting many marriages already contracted, as well as others which may be in contemplation.

4. That, in the judgment of this body, it is, therefore, now more necessary than ever to make strenuous exertions for the repeal of the existing law in this respect.

5. That this body look with entire approval on the bill for this purpose introduced into the House of Commons by Lord Bury, M.P., and do petition both Houses of Legislature that the same may pass into a law.

It was moved by the Rev. THOMAS TIMPSON, seconded by the Rev. W. LUCY, and resolved :-

1. That this body has long regarded with deep concern and regret the course which has notoriously been pursued by the British Government in India in relation to religion, as, on the one hand, involving a direct patronage and support of various

forms of false religion, and, on the other, exhibiting an aspect of official discouragement and rebuke to the profession of Christianity.

2. That, in the judgment of this body, the root of a course at once so inconsistent and so mischievous, is to be found in the erroneously assumed right and duty of Government to show favour or disfavour to religion of any form; and that all the difficulties of the case would be removed if the Government would limit its action to secular affairs, and content itself with maintaining with equal hand the civil rights of all, leaving professors of every creed to an unrestricted course, within the bounds of public decency and order.

III. That, in the judgment of this body, a period has arrived when a change in the traditional policy of the Government of India in this respect, not only may be safely effected, but is imperatively required; and that it is of great importance, not only to the interest of Christianity in India, but to the general welfare of the vast population there committed to British rule, that such a change should be immediately accomplished.

4. That, as a measure for promoting the better government of India is now before Parliament, this body petition both Houses, in accordance with the foregoing sentiments, that, in any measure for this purpose which may be adopted by the Legislature, provision may be made for restraining the Indian Government, at once and alike, from any patronage on the one hand, or any discouragement on the other, of any form of religion, whether Pagan, Mohammedan, or Christian.

THE UNIVERSITY MIDDLE-CLASS SCHEMES.—The *Post*, in a leader contrasting the Oxford and Cambridge schemes, says:—"A point of difference between the two schemes is found in the treatment of 'religious knowledge' in the Cambridge programme, compared with that of the 'rudiments of faith and religion' in the Oxford plan. According to the regulations of both Universities, the examination in these subjects will not be required of any candidate whose parents or guardians shall have declined it on his behalf; but the marks gained by a candidate for 'religious knowledge' are to be taken into consideration in determining his place in the class list in the Cambridge scheme; whereas, according to the Oxford plan, the fact that a candidate has passed the examination in the 'rudiments of faith and religion' will merely be entered in his certificate without its affecting his place on the list. There is also a notable difference in the specific examination subjects under this head. Both Universities appoint certain portions of Holy Scripture. In addition to this, Oxford will examine its candidates in certain portions of the Book of Common Prayer. The additional subjects appointed by Cambridge consist of two parts—first, there are portions of the Prayer-book, and, secondly, Archbishop Whately's 'Essay Lessons on Christian Evidences' for the junior, and Paley's 'Horæ Pauline' for the senior candidates—one only of which two parts is absolutely required. Those, therefore, who object to their children being examined in the authoritative documents of the Church of England, but do not wish them to neglect the subject of religious knowledge altogether, may place in their hands books so universally approved of as the 'Horæ Pauline,' and the Archbishop of Dublin's little work on the Evidences.

ALLEGED INDISCRETION OF EDUCATIONAL AGENTS IN INDIA.—The conduct of a Mr. Chapman, Inspector of Education, in Behar (India), has recently been censured by the Court of Directors in a despatch to the Governor-General in Council, dated the 13th inst. (No. 52.) Referring to certain passages in the reports of Mr. Chapman, embodied in a "General Report on Public Instruction in the Lower Provinces of the Bengal Presidency, for 1855-56," the Directors instruct the Governor-General of India to express to Mr. Chapman "the serious displeasure with which they have viewed his conduct in inducing the natives to believe that it was the order of the Government that their children should attend the schools under his inspection;" it being their intention that it shall be quite optional with the natives to avail themselves of the facilities for education afforded them or not. The "over-zeal" of Mr. Chapman is indirectly censured in a subsequent paragraph of the despatch. The Directors declare that "the Government will adhere with good faith to its ancient policy of perfect neutrality in matters affecting the religion of the people of India," and they "most earnestly caution all those in authority under it not to afford by their conduct the least colour to the suspicion that that policy has undergone, or will undergo, any change." The Governor-General is also ordered to rebuke Mr. H. S. Reid, of the North-Western Provinces, in the same manner, if it be found that he has pursued the same objectionable course.

THE ARCHDEACON OF YORK ON CHURCH-RATES.—No COMPROMISE.—My own expectations is that sooner or later, probably not in this session of Parliament, but at no very distant period, it will be carried, and that this triumph will be obtained for the enemies of the Established Church. If it were a personal tax upon the Dissenter, and therefore wounding to his conscience, and not as I conceive merely an outgoing on the property he holds, and if its removal would take away the last grievances of which he would complain, I should view with less concern the prospect of the abolition of Church-rates. If, however, Church-rates are under any form to be abolished, I should prefer their simple and unqualified abolition to any of the modified proposals of compromise which have been made, and most especially to the substitution of a rent to be laid upon any of the sittings in our churches.—*Charge at Rotherham.*

CLERICAL EXCLUSIVENESS AT HOWDEN.—The Committee of the Milton Room in this place have recently favoured the inhabitants with a rare treat by an Exhibition of Fine Arts, &c., after the fashion of the Great Exhibition of 1851; and for a small town, perhaps this exhibition has seldom if ever been equalled. Great energy and industry, as well as good taste, must have been engaged in order to produce a collection so varied, so interesting, so instructive, and so beautiful. The Committee invited the Independent Sabbath School, the Wesleyan Day School, and the inmates of the Union to visit the

room without charge; an invitation as cheerfully accepted as it was generously made. Nor was the National School overlooked, but in reply to the invitation, conveyed by the Rev. George Richards (the Independent Minister and Chairman of the Exhibition Committee), the answer was "that the Committee of the National School were not unanimous, and therefore the children could not be allowed to come!" It is not easy to imagine on what point this want of unanimity was developed, unless it be that the Exhibition, though it has nothing sectarian about it, was managed for the most part by Independents.—*From a Correspondent.*

NEW AUSTRALIAN BISHOPRIC.—The Government has consented to erect a new bishopric in Australia, to be cut out of the district at present comprised in the diocese of Newcastle. The new diocese will extend from the river Hawkesbury 800 miles along the coast, and stretch 700 miles inland. This see will be endowed by subscription; at least sufficient capital must be invested to produce 500*l.* a year. Four-fifths of the required sum has been provided.

THE PREACHERSHIP AT LINCOLN'S INN.—At a council of the Benchers on Friday, the Rev. Dr. Thompson, Provost of Queen's College, Oxford, was appointed preacher to the Society. The number of candidates was very large, and at the final ballot Archdeacon Otter, of Chichester, was second, and Dr. Goulbourn, late head-master of Rugby, was third on the poll. Dr. Thompson is well known in London, having lately been a very popular preacher in Marylebone.

BISHOPS AND CLERGY.—A correspondent of the *Times* mentions that in the city of Norwich there are 36 livings, of which the united value to the incumbents amounts to 3,863*l.* per annum, the bishop of the diocese receiving 5,000*l.* per annum. Another correspondent states that there are 18 churches in the city of Oxford for which the united incomes paid to the clergy amount to 1,663*l.*, the bishop's income being also 5,000*l.*

THE HIGH CHURCH "SISTERS" AT EAST GRINSTEAD.—These persons (who, with their clerical patron, the Rev. Mr. Neale, behaved so disgracefully in the case of the late Miss Scobell) have received notice to quit the house they occupy; the owner utterly disapproving of the unexpected use to which it was put. They have, therefore, issued an address, in which they state that when they took it there was a full understanding that the lease would be renewed. The *Brighton Gazette* says that this statement about the lease is "absolutely false." It adds that the sisters did not take the house at all, but it was taken by Mr. Neale, and that he stated that he wanted it for a residence for his mother.

Religious Intelligence.

MAZE-POND CHAPEL.—The Rev. J. H. Millard, of Huntingdon, having accepted a very cordial invitation to the pastorate of the church meeting in the above place, is expected to enter upon his new sphere of labour on the third Lord's-day in May.

BURTON-UPON-TRENT.—The Rev. Alexander Mackennal, B.A., of Hackney College, has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the Congregational Church in this town, and intends commencing his ministerial work on the second Sunday of May.

THE REV. R. W. CARPENTER, of Hackney College, has accepted a most cordial and unanimous invitation from the church at King-street, Portsea, to be co-pastor in connexion with the Rev. T. Cousins, and intends commencing his stated labours on the first Sabbath in May.

ROSS, HEREFORDSHIRE.—The Rev. Frederick Leonard, LL.B., has resigned the pastorate of the Baptist Church meeting in Broad-street Chapel, in the above town. A handsome time-piece was presented to him, upon his resignation, by the church and congregation, as a "memento of their affection, gratitude, and esteem."

DEVIZES.—The Rev. Charles Stanford, who has for eleven years been pastor of the church and congregation assembling for worship in the new Baptist Chapel in this town, is about to leave his present charge, for the purpose of taking the oversight, in connexion with the Rev. Dr. Steane, of the Baptist church and congregation at Camberwell.

CAMBERWELL.—A series of services for the working classes is being held at Camden Church, Camberwell, on successive Monday evenings between Easter and Whitsuntide. The preachers are the Rev. Canon Melville, Rev. W. Cadman, the Dean of Westminster, Archdeacon Robinson, the Bishop of Jamaica, and the Rev. Canon Dale. Working men are invited to come in their home or working dress, and to occupy the pews.

PARK-CRESCENT SUNDAY SCHOOL, CLAPHAM.—On Tuesday evening, April 13th, the annual tea and public meeting was held at the above place, on which occasion the service had a peculiar interest attaching to it, from the fact that this was the last opportunity of their beloved pastor and superintendent to address them prior to his entering on his new sphere of labour at Fimlico. The Revs. J. Hill, J. Hiron, J. Hall, S. Eldridge, F. T. Thomas, S. Rowe, E. Merriman, F. Cropp, and other friends, were present to take part in the proceedings of the evening, and warmly expressed their high esteem and their deep sympathy with the church and school in their recent and severe loss.

MR. WAITE'S PSALMODY CLASSES IN WILTSHIRE.—The Rev. J. J. Waite has just completed one of his valuable series of lectures and exercises in four contiguous towns of Wiltshire. The steadily increasing attendance during the course showed the interest which was awakened, and bore its silent

testimony to the excellency of Mr. Waite's method of instruction. Of this, indeed, there could be but one opinion. Some who had honestly doubted the possibility of imparting the science and practice of psalmody to a congregation in general, are glad to acknowledge their error; and their only regret is, that advantages so great should have been so long unknown.

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, STRAID, COUNTY OF ANTRIM, IRELAND.—This chapel, which was much admired for its neat and unassuming appearance, is cruciform, with pointed Gothic windows. On the northern gable is a tablet, with this inscription:—"Ebenezer: erected A.D. 1816; rebuilt and enlarged 1838." It is capable of seating upwards of 400 hearers. The morning service was conducted by the Rev. J. W. Massie, D.D., LL.D., who began by prayer and singing the 100th Psalm. The pastor (Mr. Bain) read the Scriptures, giving an outline of the origin of the church under the auspices of the Irish Evangelical Society, through the labours of the Rev. William Hamilton, his successor the Rev. William Clinton, and the settlement of the present pastor in 1838, with a statement of the doctrines and church order of the Independents. Dr. Massie, then ascending the pulpit, preached a most excellent sermon from John xiv. 22, to a large and respectable audience. In the evening the Rev. Robert Lowell, of Londonderry, delivered a most impressive discourse from 1 Peter i. 9. The collections after both services amounted to 50*l.*

BAPTIST CHAPEL, UXBRIDGE.—Notwithstanding the unfavourableness of the weather, on Tuesday, April 6th, the special services in connexion with the anniversary of this cause were remarkably well attended. The Rev. William Brock, in his usual powerful and argumentative style, preached from Romans i. 4, in the afternoon, and the Rev. Wm. Landels, in an impressive and able manner, delivered an eloquent discourse upon the "Prodigal." A tea-meeting was held in the school-room, which was beautifully decorated with evergreens and scriptural mottoes. The Rev. G. Rouse Lowden, F.R.G.S., pastor, and the Rev. S. Lillycrop, took part in the engagements of the day. The following ministers were present, viz., Revs. J. Glendening (Independent), W. Baddeley (Wesleyan), J. Sheppard (Independent), W. Perratt, of Harlington; J. Gibson, West Drayton; E. Hunt, and several others. On Sunday, April 11th, the services were resumed, when the Rev. R. Wyndham Guinness delivered morning and evening earnest sermons; the Rev. J. Gibson, of West Drayton, preached in the afternoon.

HARVEY-LANE CHAPEL, LEICESTER.—The congregation of Wesleyan Reformers meeting in this chapel having formed themselves into an Independent Church and become identified with the Congregational body, the event was celebrated by special religious services on Tuesday last, when the young church and its pastor, the Rev. W. Woods, were, according to the custom of Dissenters, publicly "recognised" by the Congregational churches and pastors of this town and county. The Recognition Service was held in the Harvey-lane Chapel, and commenced at half-past two o'clock in the afternoon. Many Dissenting ministers of the town and county took part in the service, and the congregation, which was very large, included members of the various Independent and Baptist societies of the town. The introductory discourse was preached by the Rev. Dr. Legge, and the charge to the minister given by the Rev. R. W. McAll. Tea was provided in the adjoining school-room, which was crowded, and at seven o'clock the service was again renewed in the chapel, which was crowded to excess. Rev. T. Stevenson conducted the first part of the service, after which Rev. E. G. Cecil, of Nottingham, preached the sermon to the people.—*Abridged from Leicester Mercury.*

THE RELIGIOUS REVIVAL IN AMERICA.—The author of "The Englishwoman in America," who has just returned from a year's residence in the United States, speaks hopefully of the revival now going on, in a letter to the *Christian Times*. She says:—"The anxiety for salvation is not confined to any one class. The wealthy, the learned, the fashionable, the tradesmen, the carmen, the 'employed' of all descriptions, are now in thousands awakened to a sense of the value of their souls. Religion has become a principal theme of conversation in the streets, the stores, the hotels, the cars, and steamboats, as well as in private families. Three things at first sight commend themselves to our notice, as distinguishing this movement from any apparently of the same nature which have preceded it:—1st. The total absence of any plans or organisation for the purpose of producing a religious excitement, and the deep seriousness and absence of excitement and any external demonstrations. 2nd. The universality of the movement, extending throughout all denominations, and over an area of country equal to more than half of Europe. 3rd. That there is no trumpet-tongued evangelist of the revival, as Wesley, Whitefield, or Jonathan Edwards, attracting thousands by his eloquence or his fame, but that wherever the Gospel has been preached in its purity conversions in large numbers have occurred."

CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of the subscribers and friends of this society was held in the Lecture-room of the Sunday School Union Buildings, on Monday evening, Alderman Challis in the chair. The Rev. Mr. Ritchard, of Coverdale Chapel, opened the meeting with prayer, after which the Rev. Robert Ashton read a report of business done by the committee during the last two years. From this document it appeared that the society has been the means of stimulating home

mission effort to a very large extent, and that in conjunction with the Surrey Mission it had originated a new interest amongst an increasing population near the Camp at Aldershot. Special reference was made to the visit of the Rev. J. H. Wilson, of Aberdeen, under the auspices of the society, and to the great amount of good done by his advocacy of Christianity as an aggressive system of truth. Mr. Wilson was again in London fulfilling some engagements which he had not been able to undertake last year, and the committee had hoped to be able to induce him to become the permanent superintendent of the society, but Mr. Wilson did not see his way clear to take this important step, although there was some reason to hope that arrangements might yet be made by which the benefit of his services might be in some way or other secured for London. The Rev. Mr. Townley moved the adoption of the report. Mr. Davison, of Wandsworth, seconded the motion, and stated that much good had been done by Mr. Wilson's visit to his church. Mr. Wilson then read an exceedingly interesting and important paper, on the "Moral Statistics of London, and the best means of dealing with them," and observed with reference to the invitation of the society, that if the committee should appoint a secretary to manage the details, he hoped to be able to give a considerable portion of his time to preaching in the churches of London, with a view to each church's undertaking the district which lay nearest to its own hands. He felt that he would be far more useful by advocating the cause of home missions on independent grounds, than he could be in having to attend to all the details which had been so well managed by Mr. Ashton and Mr. Littler, who had just resigned. The Rev. J. H. Hinton, Rev. Mr. Pearsall, Rev. Mr. Marsh, and Rev. Mr. Richardson, also addressed the meeting. The Chairman expressed his unabated confidence in the principles of the society, and expressed a hope that the committee would be able to give full effect to the sentiments expressed at that meeting. The report was approved, and ordered to be printed along with the paper which Mr. Wilson had read. The meeting then separated, evidently greatly interested in the proceedings of the evening.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

DEBATES.

TENANT COMPENSATION IN IRELAND.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, Mr. MAGUIRE moved the second reading of the Tenants' Compensation (Ireland) Bill. He contended that the foundation of the social fabric in that country, owing to the condition of its agricultural population, was still insecure, the great social evil being a deficiency of motive in that population for industry. The land was held, not by lease, but by the will of another; and hence arose a sense of insecurity. The objections hitherto alleged against the remedy proposed by this bill—namely, a surplus population and the smallness of farms—did not now exist. He denied that the former was valid at any time, and a most important social revolution had obviated the latter objection. He then proceeded to show, with reference to specific cases, the complete dependence of the tenant in Ireland upon the landlord, and the manner in which the law was, he said, made an instrument of oppression and wrong. On the part of landlords, as well as tenants, he asked for a change of this law, which was the root of all the social evils of Ireland. The question must be settled, for the matter would not die down.

The motion was seconded by The O'DONOGHUE.

Sir J. WALSH moved to defer the second reading of the bill for six months. He examined the provisions of the bill, the principle of which, he contended, was of a much wider character than that of tenant compensation, which embodied, he said, the views of Mr. Sharman Crawford, and the effect of which was to take away from the owner of the soil all property in it by declaring that whatever value was given to the soil by labour and capital belonged to the person who bestowed that labour and capital upon it; so that in time landlords would no longer exist in Ireland, a mere rent-charge being substituted for ownership.

Mr. J. D. FITZGERALD said it was because he approved the principle of the bill, which was the same already sanctioned and endorsed by the house, believing that it would benefit both landlord and tenant, securing the rights of the one and giving protection to the other, that he should vote for the second reading. He did not approve all he found in the bill, which indeed contained much that he disapproved; but these were matters of detail.

Lord PALMERSTON despaired of converting a bill which he regarded as a sweeping confiscation of property into a measure he could assent to, and he should therefore vote against the second reading.

Mr. CAIRD advocated the small farm system in Ireland, which he thought was beneficial to the country, and which did not, in his opinion, interfere with its productive powers.

Lord NAAS said, if he thought this bill was calculated to secure to the tenant compensation for *bond fide* improvements without infringing the rights of property, he should be among the first to support it; but he believed that, while the bill would not afford the desired security to tenants, it would infringe most seriously on the rights of property.

On the motion of Mr. DEASY the debate was adjourned to the 9th of June.

THE NEW PASSPORT REGULATIONS.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the Earl of MALMESBURY, in presenting the correspondence between the English and French Governments on the

subject of passports, described the circumstances that had occasioned it. After the attempt on the life of the Emperor the French Government withdrew the permission given to French Consuls and agents to sign passports for English subjects travelling in France. This, however, had been, he thought, unjustly complained of, as it was only fair that strangers should travel with a passport of the country to which they belonged. The plan adopted by the English Government of granting Foreign-office passports on the certificate of a banker or magistrate was found insufficient, and it had been proposed that they should issue passports independently of the Foreign-office. But there was no statute by which they were bound to perform such a duty. To meet the difficulty the Government proposed to increase the number of persons from whom certificates of identity could be obtained, on which application to the Foreign-office could be made. In addition to magistrates and bankers, as at present, all clergymen of different Christian denominations, physicians, surgeons, solicitors, and notaries would be authorised to certify the identity of persons wishing to obtain passports. He thought it impossible that in any part of England a person could be so obscure of condition as not to be able to apply to some one in the seven or eight classes authorised to give a certificate. All passports granted will be Foreign-office passports. The applicant will obtain his certificate of identity, will take or send it either to the agents appointed to grant passports at Dover, Folkestone, Southampton, and Liverpool, or to the Foreign-office; and a Foreign-office passport will be delivered to them which will be *visé* by the French Consul. The cost will be reduced from 6s. to 2s. as soon as an act has been passed reducing the duty from 5s. to 1s.

The Earl of CLARENDON explained that the regulations of the late Government were only provisional. He thought the whole system of passports a great mistake; they offered no protection against the very persons the authorities wished to guard against; those persons always had their papers in order, and it was the innocent or ignorant traveller who was exposed to annoyance. This was the opinion of the Emperor of the French, and some years since he attempted to do away with the system, but was defeated by the difficulties made by his own Government.

Earl GREY said there could be no greater proof of the absurdity of the passport system than these regulations. They would not prevent persons not British subjects from getting passports, nor would they prevent a British subject from handing his passport to a foreigner. Why not supply competent authorities in different towns with passports ready filled up?

Lord MALMESBURY said he was not there to defend the system of passports. "There is not a man in the house who thinks more contemptuously of them than I do." He could not adopt Lord Grey's suggestion because there are no means of compelling magistrates of towns or counties to deliver them. He would recommend "all likely travellers and persons residing on the coast of this country, whose families reside on the coast of France, and who are liable to be called abroad suddenly on account of illness in their families, that as a passport will now only cost 2s. every man might as well furnish himself with one at once, just as he would with a *Bradshaw* or an almanack. If that is done no one who has to go abroad will suffer any inconvenience on this side of the Channel, and from the liberal conduct of the French Government I think I may say that they are not likely to meet with any on the other."

In the Commons, on Friday, Mr. FITZGERALD in explaining the new passport regulations, stated that the French Minister, under strong pressure from Lord Cowley, had agreed to reconsider his decision withdrawing from the members of yacht clubs their old privilege to land in France without passports.

LIGHTHOUSES.

In the House of Commons, on Thursday, Lord C. PAGET called attention to the present modes of superintending the lights, buoys, and beacons on the coasts of Great Britain and Ireland, and to the manner in which funds are raised to defray the expenditure thereon; and moved that the house resolve itself into a committee to consider an address praying her Majesty to direct that measures may be taken for giving effect to the recommendation of the Select Committee on Lighthouses of 1845,—"that all expenses for the erection and maintenance of lighthouses, floating lights, buoys, and beacons on the coast of the United Kingdom be henceforth defrayed out of the public revenue." He observed that it was of vital importance that there should be a simple and uniform system of lighting and buoying the coasts of this country, whereas he showed that there was no system whatever; that every harbour in England was buoyed, lighted, and signalled on an entirely distinct system.

Mr. HENLEY should have been glad if Lord Clarence had limited his motion to the management of lights, without touching the question as to who was to pay for them, and, upon the whole, he believed that the management of our system of lights was not in so disadvantageous a position as Lord Clarence had represented. At the same time, he was not prepared to say that under a central management the whole expenditure might not be reduced; but a change of system would entail a large outlay for superannuations. The Government, he added, would be ready to issue a Royal Commission to look into the whole matter, with all its difficulties, which were not few. After a great deal of discussion, Lord C.

PAGET withdrew his motion, upon the understanding that the Government would issue a Royal Commission.

TRIBUNALS OF COMMERCE.

Mr. AYRTON moved for a select committee to inquire respecting the expediency of establishing tribunals of commerce, or for otherwise improving the administration of justice in disputes of a commercial nature. He dwelt at some length upon the evils connected with the existing system, and upon the unsatisfactory mode of deciding commercial disputes in this country, and the grievances occasioned thereby, describing likewise the general nature of the tribunals of commerce in France, and their mode of procedure.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL, not opposing the motion for a committee, examined the complaints made by Mr. Ayrton against our courts of law with reference to the manner in which mercantile questions were disposed of, reminding the house of the improvements made of late years in the establishment of County Courts, the enlargement of their jurisdiction, and the modifications of the proceedings in all our courts. Adverting to the nature of the tribunals of commerce in foreign countries, which, though he would not term them remnants of a barbarous age, were very far inferior to our own courts, he was of opinion that such tribunals would not be satisfactory to this country, though he did object to the subject being investigated.

After some further discussion the motion was agreed to.

COURT OF CHANCERY PROCEDURE.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the course of procedure in the Court of Chancery. The objects of the bill were two, both having one end, to enable a suitor to obtain in one court the complete relief he required. One object was to empower the Court of Chancery, in applications for an injunction, or for specific performance, to award damages; the other object was to obviate a difficulty in that Court in trying questions of fact, by authorising it to call a jury to try such questions, instead of sending an issue to a court of law, the witnesses being examined in open court. He proposed that for the present this power should be not compulsory, but discretionary, in the judge.

After a short conversation, leave was given to introduce the bill.

THE CASE OF THE CAGLIARI.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, Mr. HEADLAM asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he had as yet received the opinions of the law officers of the Crown on the subject of the *Cagliari*, and if so, whether he could state to the house what course the Government intended to pursue.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER—

Sir, in the matter of the *Cagliari* there are two questions involved, which are really distinct. One we may call the national question, and the other international. The first concerns the treatment to which our two countrymen, Park and Watt, have been exposed. With regard to that part of the subject we have received the opinion of the Crown officers. Their opinion is unanimous, and they are of opinion that the detention and imprisonment of Park and Watt was illegal. (Hear, hear.) In consequence of our having received that opinion, after giving it all the deliberation which so serious a matter requires, we have felt it our duty to address a despatch to the Minister of the King of Naples, and my noble friend the Secretary of State has written one demanding compensation for the grievances which have been experienced by our two countrymen. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the international question—which is totally distinct from the other, and in which other maritime nations are not less interested than England—we have not as yet received the opinion of the Crown officers. In explanation of what might appear an unreasonable delay I will remind the house of what I have before stated, that on Saturday last some very important documents arrived which were submitted to the Attorney-General and his colleagues. The time of the Attorney-General, however, has been so completely absorbed for the last few days by the State trial now going on that it has not been possible for him to give these documents the attentive consideration which they require.

Mr. HEADLAM wished to know whether the right hon. gentleman would have any objection to lay on the table the document he had referred to. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said it would be inconvenient to do so at present.

On Monday the Earl of MALMESBURY repeated the statement made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Friday, to the effect that the demand for compensation had been made upon the Neapolitan Government for the wrongs sustained by Watt and Park. On the international question, respecting the capture of the *Cagliari* steamer, opinions had been asked from five legal gentlemen, two of whom had been law officers to the late Administration, and the other three were functionaries of the present Ministry. Of these authorities, one pronounced the capture illegal; four thought that the steamer had been legally captured, but two of them considered that her subsequent confiscation would be an unjustifiable act on the part of the Neapolitan Government. Under these circumstances their lordships would see it was impossible to take strong measures, even if strong measures were under any circumstances desirable.

Lord WENSLEYDALE said there appeared to be a great difference of opinion among the law officers of the Crown of the late and present Government, and between them and Drs. Twiss and Phillimore. He did not mean to discuss the matter, but as it was an important question involving points of law, he thought they might devise means by which the case could be argued before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and an opinion more satisfactory to the country obtained from a tribunal which

possessed great weight by reason of the judgment and talent of those who composed it. (Hear.)

Mr. A. W. KINGLAKE gave notice that on Friday, the 23rd instant, he would move the following resolution:—

That this house would hear with much regret that her Majesty's Government felt itself compelled by its view of the law of nations to withdraw from the principles and the course of action indicated and suggested to the Sardinian Government by Lord Clarendon's despatch of the 29th of December, and this house trusts that in the demands made by her Majesty the Queen and by the King of Sardinia in relation to the capture of the *Capitani* and her crew, the two Governments will be able to act in cordial concert.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

On the motion that the house on rising should adjourn to Monday, Mr. T. DUNCOMBE, addressing himself to the late Prime Minister, inquired whether he would have any objection to lay upon the table of the house a copy of the bill for the amendment of the laws relating to the representation referred to in the speech from the Throne at the commencement of the present session? The question of reform was, he observed, left in a false position. Various propositions for the improvement of the representative system had been left in abeyance in consequence of the pledge given by the late Ministry for the introduction of some comprehensive measure which, though promised in the royal speech, had never made its appearance. Adverting to the precedent established with regard to the India Government, he observed, that if Lord Palmerston would lay on the table the bill of the late Government for Parliamentary Reform, they would, in all probability, have a bill from the present Government on that subject also—"Hear, hear," and a laugh—or, at all events, the noble lord the member for the City of London will kindly step forward and spread a feather bed for the right hon. gentleman opposite—(a laugh)—on which his bill may safely drop, in the shape of certain resolutions. (Laughter.)

Lord PALMERSTON remarked that as the House of Commons had terminated the existence of a Government pledged to bring in a Reform Bill, the fair inference was that no such measure was thought desirable at present.

We obtained leave to introduce, and laid before the house, a bill on the subject of India. We expected—short-sighted mortals—(laughter)—that we should also have an opportunity of presenting to this house a measure of Parliamentary reform. The house, however, deemed it right that that should not be. (Laughter.) The majority of this house, by cutting short our official career, intimated an opinion that we ought not to have an opportunity, during this session, of submitting our measure to Parliament. We, of course, bowed to that decision, and we now sit here instead of sitting in the responsible seats on the other side of the table. (Laughter.) Well, then, Sir, my answer to my hon. friend is, in the first place, that we had not so far embodied our arrangements in the shape of a bill as to be able, even if we thought it expedient on constitutional grounds to do so, to lay our bill on the table of the house. But even if we had prepared the bill, I very much doubt whether it would have been the opinion of the house that a bill of such great importance, bearing upon matters of such great national interests, should be introduced from any quarter except the responsible Ministers of the Crown. (Hear, hear.) My hon. friend says that there is nothing to be expected from the present Government. Why, I have certainly understood what has passed in a rather different sense from what my hon. friend appears to have done. I rather infer from many things that have come to our knowledge that the present Government do intend in the course of the next session, not only to consider that subject, but to submit to the house the result of their consideration in a practical measure; and judging, among other things, from the communications which have passed between her Majesty's Attorney-General and his constituents—(laughter)—I am led to infer that even out of office they have turned their minds very practically to that subject, and that they have made such progress in it that there can be little doubt that after the recess those arrangements to which the Attorney-General alluded—(laughter)—and which he commended to the attention of his constituents, will be presented by her Majesty's Government to this house in the shape of a bill. Therefore I think my hon. friend need not be under the alarm that he was at first on this subject. I think he may, on that point at least, repose confidence in her Majesty's Government, and wait with patience till next session shall produce the fruits of their deliberation.

Mr. L. KING said, as there was now no prospect of the introduction of a Parliamentary Reform Bill, he hoped the two bills which he introduced last year, and which were postponed, one for the extension of the county franchise, and the other for the abolition of the property qualification, would meet with the support of the entire Liberal party.

THE WESTERN BANK OF SCOTLAND.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, Mr. BRADY called attention to the circumstances attending the recent failure of the Western Bank of Scotland. After describing some of the incidents connected with the collapse of that establishment, he expressed a hope that the directors would even yet be brought to justice. The LORD ADVOCATE repeated, what he had previously stated, that no facts had come to his knowledge which afforded grounds for a criminal prosecution against the managers of the bank in question. Mr. ELLICE commented upon the calamitous results of the failure of the Western Bank, which was, he maintained, altogether attributable to the misconduct of the directors. He was surprised to learn that the offenders were to escape scot-free. If the law was really unable to protect the public from such injuries, it should be properly invigorated. Mr. BLACKBURN exonerated the directors of the Western Bank from any worse offence than mismanagement. They had absorbed none of the shareholders' or depositors' money, having themselves lost largely by the common calamity. Mr. J. D. FITZGERALD observed that the directors had declared a dividend of nine per cent. at a time when there

existed a deficiency of more than two millions in the funds of the bank. This and other circumstances, he thought, demanded a strict investigation. Mr. MONCRIEFF reminded the house that there was a public prosecutor in Scotland, before whom any complaint could be laid, with the certainty that if crime had been committed it would be forthwith prosecuted. The discussion was continued by Mr. P. O'Brien, Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Atherton, Mr. Hope Johnstone, and other members. The subject ultimately dropped.

Admiral WALCOT then called attention to the unfinished state of the Nelson column; and Mr. DISRAELI, eulogising Nelson, said that his name is our glory, his monument our shame. He would take upon himself the responsibility of completing "a monument so intimately connected with the glory and reputation of this country."

At length the house got into committee of supply on the Navy and Army Estimates. Several votes were taken, but there was no discussion of public interest. General FREL, in moving certain votes on account, did not make any detailed statement. The votes were agreed to without discussion; and the house resumed.

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The House of Commons, on Monday, having resolved itself into a Committee of Ways and Means, The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made his financial statement. He began by adverting to the great changes which had taken place in the commercial condition of the country since the financial statement of his predecessor—changes which had clouded and disturbed the prospects indulged in 1857. The American panic, he observed had acted in a disastrous manner upon our own commercial condition, and towards the end of the year a monetary crisis, in which the rate of discount reached 10 per cent., had produced severe distress, and pressed heavily upon the revenue of the country. After reading returns of the British trade and navigation in 1855, 1856, and 1857, and comparing them with the returns for 1853, the year before the war, he proceeded to consider our financial condition—the charges upon the revenue, and the means at our command to meet them. There had been, he said, a considerable restoration of commercial confidence; capital was abundant, money was cheap, and the prices of the main articles of consumption were lower; but it was his conviction that, although the general condition of the country was at the present moment sound, and although there were indications of improvement, he could not indulge the belief that there would be a rapid return of the spirit of enterprise. After stating the amounts at which the several items of expenditure had been estimated for the last year by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, and their actual amount, he detailed the estimated expenditure for the year 1858-59, viz.:—

Funded and unfunded debt	£28,400,000
Civil List, &c.	1,900,000
Army	11,750,000
Navy	9,860,000
Miscellaneous Civil Services	7,000,000
Revenue Departments	4,700,000
Liabilities	3,500,000
	£67,110,000

The resources to meet these charges he estimated as follows:—

Customs	£23,400,000
Excise	18,100,000
Stamps	7,550,000
Land and Assessed-taxes	3,200,000
Property and Income-tax	6,100,000
Post-office	3,200,000
Crown Lands	270,000
Miscellaneous	1,300,000
	£63,120,000

The expenditure being 67,110,000*l.*, and the estimated revenue only 63,120,000*l.*, there would be a deficit of 3,990,000*l.* This deficiency, he remarked, was not occasioned by any falling off in the resources of the country. He considered it under two heads:—first, the amount occasioned by our undertaking to pay debts; secondly, the amount caused by the cessation of taxes. The first, amounting to 3,500,000*l.*, was created by the War Sinking Fund, 1,500,000*l.*, and the payment of 2,000,000*l.* Exchequer bonds. He strongly urged the inexpediency of continuing the artificial attempt to pay debts without a surplus revenue, which was a revival of the old principle of the Sinking Fund; it was, in his opinion, highly fallacious and erroneous, and ought not to be kept in operation, at least until the Exchequer bonds had been paid off. Would the house, he asked, raise a loan to discharge engagements to pay off debts for which we had no means? Would not this be a clumsy mode of squaring accounts? The raising of money to pay debts would only plunge us deeper into debt. Then, was the house prepared to discharge the engagement by additional taxation? It would be a perplexing question how to raise 3,500,000*l.* by taxation. He recommended the house to terminate the special Sinking Fund system either by repealing the act, which he considered to be false in principle and injurious in practice, or to resolve to suspend its operation until the Exchequer bonds were provided for, which would relieve the finances of 1,500,000*l.* a year. With regard to the Exchequer bonds, he might propose to fund them; but that course, he considered, would be unjustifiable, and contradictory to the conditions which the Government and Parliament had entered into when they were issued. If they were to be met, however, it must be by a new tax. At all events, the spirit of the engagement should be fulfilled; but they should be met out of the revenues of the country,

and there should not be a permanent addition to the debt. He felt it to be his duty to place the finances in a position that would be advantageous to the country, and he recommended to the house to postpone for some years the payment of the Exchequer bonds—an arrangement that would secure their discharge out of the revenues of the country. With respect to that portion of the deficiency caused by the falling off of the revenue, that had been occasioned by the cessation of a tax of a very memorable character—the Property and Income-tax. The importance of that tax was not to be measured, he said, by its amount, but by the mode in which it was assessed, the manner in which it was levied, and the social principles involved in its collection. This impost, unjust and inquisitorial as it was regarded, could not be made a permanent feature of our fiscal system. But, although this was his opinion, and, believing that the agreement of 1853 should, in spirit, if not in letter, be carried into effect, it was possible that the country, however anxious to obtain this result, might not be unprepared to bear this year the burden it had borne so well the last; although a deficiency arising from the cessation of taxation must be supplied by taxation, and the deficiency would be converted into a surplus if the committee should continue the income-tax for another year at the same rate as that of last year, it was, nevertheless, the deliberate opinion of her Majesty's Ministers that the deficiency of the revenue ought not to be supplied by an increase of this tax. But, if its fall was not to be disturbed, the house must feel that it was absolutely necessary to support the revenue by the imposition of new taxes. It might be said that the expenditure could be reduced; but this process could not be accomplished in haste; it required time and investigation. Although it would be possible to earn a momentary popularity by retrenchments, unless they were the result of thought and management they would only lead to a fatal reaction of expenditure. In discharging the unpleasant office of selecting a new tax, he was consoled he said, in reflecting that every one would feel a relief in the fall in the rate of the income-tax, and the mode in which he would attempt to supply the remaining portion of the deficiency was by a proposition which he considered reasonable and wise—namely, to equalise the duties on spirits, which, he calculated, would give to the Exchequer 500,000*l.* a year, thus putting an end to the deficit. But he thought provision should be made to secure a surplus, and, as no form of taxation was more popular, or less annoying than stamps, he proposed that when a check was drawn there should be a stamp; and this tax, he estimated, would produce 300,000*l.* Mr. Disraeli, in conclusion, took a cheerful view of the situation and prospects of the country next year, when he expected, if no disaster occurred, we should be able to meet all engagements and enjoy the luxury of a surplus revenue, and he expressed a hope that the propositions he had made would receive the candid consideration and cordial acceptance of the country. The right hon. gentleman concluded amidst considerable cheering, by moving resolutions in accordance with the views he had enunciated.

A miscellaneous discussion ensued, in which various points presented in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's statement were cursorily remarked upon by many hon. members. Mr. GOGAN thought the committee could not but admire the ability and clearness of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's statement. (Cheers.) But he and other representatives from the sister isle urged strong objections to the increased duty on spirits.

Sir G. C. LEWIS retained his opinion that something like the existing Sinking Fund Act was advisable for the redemption of the debt, or it would go on interminably unliquidated. He would, however, reserve his observations until the bill on the subject should be before them. As to the postponement of the Exchequer bonds he could not postpone them. They must be paid, and he presumed the right hon. gentleman would take a vote in supply to meet them, and thus they would become nothing more nor less than a new loan for a specific time.

Mr. MALINS believed the country would hail with delight the fact that the right hon. gentleman was resolved that the gradual reduction of the income-tax should not be interfered with. He gave his cordial approval to the Budget, with the exception of that portion of it relating to bankers' cheques.

Mr. GLYN expressed a hope that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would re-consider his proposition with respect to the stamps on cheques, which would lead to the greatest inconvenience, particularly in the country.

Mr. INGRAM expressed his disappointment at not hearing from the Chancellor of the Exchequer any proposal with regard to the paper duty. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.) He should have been glad if the right hon. gentleman had made the income-tax 6*d.* in the pound, in order to get rid of an impost which had been condemned by every statesman of late years; or the right hon. gentleman might have devised some plan for preventing the legacy and succession duties from being evaded in the wholesale manner they were by free gifts.

Mr. GLADSTONE expressed his gratification that the proposal of the Chancellor of the Exchequer had been so well received by the house. The stamp on cheques was a proposal on which there prevailed a great diversity of opinion, but the right hon. gentleman would be certain to receive a vast amount of information on the subject from those who best understood its bearings, and should he, on considering that information, think it advisable to abandon his project, he would do so without the slightest discredit. He approved of the proposal to equalise the

spirit duty; and though he regretted that the repayments of debt were to be postponed, he felt that they had no right to complain of the Government on that account, under the circumstances in which they were at present placed. Rejoicing to find that the arrangement effected in 1853 was to be carried out by the extinction of the income-tax in 1860, he declared that the real difficulty in accomplishing that object arose not from the debts incurred during the war, but from the incessant and enormous increase in the regular expenditure. The whole amount of permanent war obligations did not exceed a million and a quarter annually, while the expenses of the country had augmented eight or nine millions within the last ten years, the gross total having expanded from fifty-five to sixty-three and a-half millions. He urged upon the house and the Government the necessity of curbing the spirit of extravagance which had prevailed so extensively for many sessions past, and which not only imperilled the abolition of the income-tax, but frustrated every attempt to extinguish the paper duties and many other injurious and oppressive imposts.

Mr. CARDWELL disliked the scheme for postponing the liquidation of two millions of Exchequer bonds to the years 1862 and 1863. The operation amounted to a re-borrowing of the money; and as the income-tax would have ceased when the prescribed time for repayment arrived, he feared that the Exchequer would be then in a weaker condition than it was at present. He should have preferred the retention for another year of the 2d. just fallen off the income-tax, which would have supplied exactly the two millions wanted to pay off the bonds.

Lord J. RUSSELL also expressed regret at the postponement of the payment of the bonds. As we complained so much of our ancestors' extravagance, and found such difficulty in paying the debts they had bequeathed, it behoved us to avoid following their example, and leave still heavier burthens to our successors.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER replied to the objections made to his Budget, and insisted upon the accurate, though temperate and cautious principles upon which his estimates of the revenue for the current year were founded.

The resolutions were then agreed to and ordered to be reported.

RECALL OF LORD HOWDEN.

On the order for going into a Committee of Supply, Sir DE LACY EVANS drew attention to the recall of Lord Howden from the office of British Minister at Madrid. He thought it of much importance that the policy we had pursued with regard to Spain should not be retrogressive, and, as no cause had been assigned for the removal of Lord Howden, which had caused much regret throughout that country, he hoped the Government would be able to say that the change had not originated in a foreign Court.

Mr. S. FITZGERALD said there was not the slightest justification for any of the insinuations of Sir De Lacy Evans, which were most unprecedented, and if the course were to be followed the example would be most dangerous. The removal of Lord Howden did not imply, and was not intended to imply, censure, and the manner in which he had been recalled was not discourteous.

Lord PALMERSTON quite agreed that it was expedient that the advisers of the Crown should be at liberty to choose their own diplomatic agents, but he did not see the necessity of recalling Lord Howden in so abrupt a manner. He bore testimony to the great ability with which that nobleman had discharged the important duties intrusted to him, and lamented that the present Government should have seen reason to place the interests of the country in any other hands.

After a few words from Mr. Ker the house went into a Committee of Supply, when certain votes were agreed to, after discussion.

THE INDIA BILLS.

On the motion for the second reading of the India Government (No. 2) Bill,

Mr. HORSMAN observed that the Ministry had undertaken to proceed by way of resolution, and he suggested, therefore, that the order for this bill should be discharged, by way of simplifying their future proceedings.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER remarked that there were two India Government Bills now before the house. He thought, therefore, the best method would be merely to postpone the measure for the present.

Lord PALMERSTON said his right hon. friend (Mr. Horsman) was wrong in assuming that there was a general understanding on the part of the house to proceed by resolution on this subject. That he (Lord Palmerston) conceived was a question which the house would have to discuss on a future day. (Hear, hear.) He could not accept the suggestion of the right hon. gentleman (the Chancellor of the Exchequer), that Bill No. 1 should be withdrawn in company with Bill No. 2. He must remind the right hon. gentleman that he (Lord Palmerston) and those with whom he acted had not altered their course since the introduction of Bill No. 1 by electing to move resolutions instead—(a laugh)—and therefore the argument used in favour of the withdrawal of No. 2 Bill did not apply to Bill No. 1.

After a few words from Mr. AYRTON the motion for postponing the second reading of Bill No. 2 until Friday was agreed to.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In the House of Lords, on Monday, on the motion of the Duke of NORFOLK, an address was agreed to for copies of correspondence between the Commissioners of the Patriotic Fund and other parties relating to the case of Mrs. Rosina Bennett and her

children. In the discussion on the subject Lord COLCHESTER and Lord ST. LEONARDS defended the commissioners from the imputation of partiality in administering the fund; Lord CAMOYS admitted that in the explanation of the commissioners the charge had been completely and satisfactorily answered. The Duke of NORFOLK said if on investigation he found that he was in error he should be the first to admit it.

Mr. HEADLAM asked whether it was the intention of the Government, during this session, to introduce a bill to carry into effect the recommendations of the Real Property Commissioners? Mr. WALPOLE said just before Easter he thought it right to submit the report of the Real Property Commissioners to the legal advisers of her Majesty's Government, and it was now under their consideration. There was a bill coming down from the House of Lords relating to the same subject, and when that bill was before the house he would state the views of the Government.

In reply to a question from Lord Campbell, the Earl of DERBY said that the Government would introduce a bill to regulate the sale of poisons if there should appear to be any chance of passing it during the present session.

On Friday Lord ELCHO made merry with the bridge in St. James's Park, which instead of being, as Lord Palmerston promised it should be, "the catenarian curve or line of beauty," is "the ugliest bridge ever made." He also objected to the practice of planting shrubberies in the parks. Lord JOHN MANNERS agreed, and said the shrubberies contemplated should not be planted. Sir BENJAMIN HALL said the bridge had been built to suit the traffic.

In reply to Mr. White, Mr. S. FITZGERALD said that Lord Elgin's instructions were to endeavour to gain access to ports in other parts of China as well as to those which our ships were now allowed to enter. Whatever advantages were obtained, however, would be for the benefit not only of British commerce, but of that of the world at large.

The Earl of WICKLOW has given notice that, in the event of the Oaths Bill being read a second time in that house, he would move in committee the omission of the words denying the right of any foreign prince, prelate, or potentate to claim temporal or spiritual jurisdiction in this country.

Mr. L. KING is to-morrow to move for leave to bring in a bill to abolish the property qualification for members of the House of Commons.

The Marquis of WESTMEATH has laid on the table a bill for the suppression of barrel organs and similar nuisances in the streets of the metropolis, which was read a first time, and gave notice that on Tuesday next he should present a petition upon the subject.

THE INDIAN RESOLUTIONS.

The following are the resolutions to be proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the House of Commons on Monday next:—

1. That, as the territories under the government of the East India Company are by law to remain under such government only until Parliament shall otherwise provide, this house is of opinion that it is expedient that the transfer of such government to the Crown should now take place, in order that the direct superintendence of the whole empire may be placed under one executive authority.
2. That for this purpose it is expedient to provide that her Majesty, by one of her principal Secretaries of State, shall have and perform all the powers and duties relating to the government and revenues of India which are or may be now exercised and performed by the East India Company, or by the Court of Directors or Court of Proprietors of the said Company, either alone or with the approbation of the Commissioners for the Affairs of India.
3. That such Secretary of State shall be responsible for the government of India and the transaction of business in the United Kingdom relating thereto in the same manner and to the same extent as any of her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State are responsible in the several departments over which they preside.
4. That, in order to assist such Secretary of State in the discharge of his duties, it is expedient that a Council be appointed of not less than twelve nor more than eighteen members.
5. That, in order to secure the greatest amount of knowledge and experience in the management of the affairs of India, it is advisable that the principal portion of the members of the Council shall have served in India for a term of years to be limited by statute.
6. That, with a view to the efficiency and independence of the Council, it is expedient that it should be partly nominated and partly elected.
7. That the members of the nominated portion of the Council shall be selected by her Majesty, subject, as a general rule, to the qualification above expressed, and one-half at the least of the elected members shall possess the like qualifications.
8. That the members of the elected portion of the Council shall be chosen by a constituency composed of persons who have previously held military commissions or civil appointments in India, in her Majesty's service or in that of the Government of India, or who may possess a direct interest, to an amount to be specified, in some property charged or secured on the revenues or territories of India.
9. That the Council shall be presided over by the Secretary of State, or by some member of the Council to be nominated by him as vice-president.
10. That arrangements shall be made from time to time by the Secretary of State and the Council for the meetings of the Council, for the mode of procedure at such meetings, and for the distribution and transaction of business.
11. That all despatches, letters, orders, and communications shall be addressed to the Secretary of State, and shall be open to the inspection of every member of the Council, except such as are now by law addressed to the secret committee of the Court of Directors.
12. That the recommendation of persons for first appointments shall be made to her Majesty by the Secretary of State, with the concurrence of the Council; and the same rules shall be observed in the making of such recommendations as have been followed by the Court of Directors in the making of such appointments.
13. That, for the purpose of ascertaining the fitness of persons for the several appointments for which they may be so recommended, the same rules for the examination of cadets and of clerks shall be adhered to which are now followed by the Court of Directors of the East India Company, until the same be altered by the Secretary of State and Council of India.
14. That provision shall be made for transferring to the Crown all the real and personal property of the Company,

except their capital stock, and the dividend thereon, so as to vest the same in her Majesty, for the purposes of the government of India; for continuing the charge on the revenues of India alone of the dividend on the capital stock of the said Company until the redemption thereof, and of all the territorial and other debts and engagements which are payable by the Company out of the revenues of India; for auditing the accounts of the Home Government of India, under the direction of her Majesty's Treasury; for laying such accounts annually before Parliament; and for securing the preference given by the 3rd and 4th of William IV. to the dividends on the capital stock of the said Company and the right of the said Company to demand the redemption of such dividends, and their right on the security Fund undiminished and unaffected by the transfer to the Crown of the direct government of her Majesty's Indian possessions.

DEPUTATION TO THE EARL OF DERBY ON CHURCH-RATES.

On Monday afternoon a deputation, consisting of members of Parliament and others, waited on the Earl of Derby, the First Lord of the Treasury, at his official residence in Downing-street, in deprecation of the bill now before the House of Commons, introduced by Sir John Trelawny, for the abolition of Church-rates. The deputation consisted of the Duke of Marlborough, Viscount Dungannon, the Hon. Frederick Lygon, M.P., the Hon. William Beresford, M.P., the Hon. Colonel Duncombe, M.P., the Hon. Major H. L. Powys, Mr. T. T. Bernard, M.P., Captain Gray, M.P., Mr. S. Waddington, M.P., Mr. A. G. Stapleton, Mr. John M. Knott, the hon. secretary of the Committee of Laymen, and other gentlemen.

The Duke of MARLBOROUGH introduced the deputation, and handed in a statement, from which it appeared by the returns laid before Parliament that of the parishes which sent in replies to the questions transmitted to them, more than 95 per cent. grant the rate, and that 38 parishes are returned as having in former years refused Church-rates, but within the last few years granted them. Assuming the population of all ages ranging under dissent to be commensurate with the sittings provided by those who on principle may be supposed to oppose the Established Church, according to the analysed census of 1857, the total may be taken at 2,700,000; and were this number reduced into the heads of families representing that portion of the population, and every head of the family were an objector, the number would not exceed 540,000. Therefore, compared with the number who paid the rate, it would be found that the dissentients were very few. Many of the causes which had been alleged against the collection of the Church-rate were being daily removed, and, in fact, the feeling was not near so strong against the rate as was asserted. He contended that the movement against the rate was rather political than one of conscientious scruples, and read an extract from the *Nonconformist*, intimating that the ultimate design of the movement was against the existence of the Established Church.

After some remarks from Mr. STAPLETON and Mr. KNOTT,

The Earl of DERBY said he hardly knew what it was that they wished him to reply to on the subject which they had brought before him. He felt sure none of them could have any doubt as to his wish to support and uphold the Established Church. (Hear.) Therefore he saw no reason why the rate should not be continued, as he agreed with those who had addressed him that it was necessary to maintain the right of the Established Church. He intended to pursue the same course with regard to Church-rates as hitherto, unless he saw a solution which might be adopted without sacrificing the main principle. He believed the feeling was that both parties agreed in refusing to accept anything like a compromise; one party will have it as at present, while another would have nothing less than its entire abolition. He should not, therefore, depart from his present course until he had laid down a solution which would not sacrifice the main principle of the question, but which would finally put an end to the struggle. He believed the feeling in the House of Commons was in favour of the abolition of the rate, and if he remembered rightly, the second reading of the bill introduced by Sir J. Trelawny was carried by a large majority. (Mr. Knott stated the number to be fifty-three.) He could have wished that the bill should not go into committee, but it would now do so, and then it would unfortunately be added to those questions that pass one house without passing the other. It was true, he believed, that in many parishes the rate was collected without any difficulty; but it was opposed by a few vexatious individuals, and in some cases the minority contrived successfully to defeat the majority. He repeated that he saw no such solution at present as he should think fit to adopt, and until he saw some such solution he should continue to oppose any measure for the abolition of the rate which he did not think was justifiable.

The Duke of MARLBOROUGH said the deputation only wanted his lordship to repudiate any attempt that would affect the rights of the Established Church. He believed that the feeling in support of the rate was improving, and that circumstances would arise to still further improve that feeling. He could state that in a parish adjoining his seat in Oxfordshire an individual had resisted the rate and refused its payment. Some time afterwards, however, that person was elected churchwarden, and immediately afterwards he made a rate enforcing its payment.

The Earl of DERBY wished to know if it had ever occurred to any of the members of the deputation to adopt a system of voluntary commutation of Church-rates, to give permission to parishes to buy the rate, or, in other words, to give power to landholders to charge their estates with a certain sum annually to

meet that object. He believed that if anything of that kind could be worked it would form the basis of a good principle. He was afraid, however, that the objections to any intermediate measures were so great that it would not do to touch the matter until some such solution as he had suggested could be propounded.

The Duke of MARLBOROUGH said that in the parish of Marylebone the rate was merged into the poor-rate. He believed it came to about 1d. in the pound. That was obtained by a local act.

The Earl of DERBY—You would not find it easy, I think, to get such an act now.

Mr. PACKE, M.P., said he had very great pleasure in hearing from Lord Derby a suggestion for the voluntary commutation of Church-rates. In a bill which he had the honour to introduce into the House of Commons two years ago on the subject of Church-rates, such a provision formed part of his bill; but although, as a private member, he had not much encouragement in obtaining its adoption, he should have great confidence in its success if the noble lord at the head of the Government would give it the weight of his influential position.

The Earl of DERBY reminded the deputation that what he said was merely a suggestion.

Viscount DUNGANNON said what the deputation wanted was that the bill introduced by Sir J. Trevelyan should be thrown out.

The Earl of DERBY said, in reply, that no doubt it would be thrown out, but not in the House of Commons, if his knowledge of that house was correct.

After some further conversation,

The Earl of DERBY said he believed it was true that the question of the abolition of the rate was not one of amount, but rather one of a political character.

Viscount DUNGANNON said, it would give the greatest satisfaction when it was known that such a declaration as they had that day heard had been made on behalf of her Majesty's Government—that the bill which had been introduced to abolish the rate would not be allowed to pass. Such a statement must create a strong manifestation of feeling as had scarcely ever been known—and would greatly gratify not only the whole of his lordship's supporters, but also the whole of the clergy of the Established Church.

The deputation then retired.

THE BALLOT SOIREE TO MR. W. NICHOLSON, OF AUSTRALIA.

The friends of the ballot gave a soiree on Wednesday, at the Freemasons' Tavern, "in honour of William Nicholson, Esq., late Premier of Victoria, Australia, and the founder of the ballot in the British dominions." Mr. Henry Berkeley presided. There were on the platform eight members of Parliament, including Sir Arthur Elton and General Thompson. Mr. Miall, Mr. Samuel Morley, Mr. Westgarth, and Mr. Staveley, of Australia, were also present. Several members sent excuses, among them Lord Stanley, Mr. Milner Gibson, Mr. Cobden, and Mr. Bright. The chief proceeding of the evening was the presentation of the following address to Mr. Nicholson:—

To William Nicholson, Esq., of Melbourne, in the Colony of Victoria.

In the name and on the behalf of the "Society for Promoting the Adoption of the Vote by Ballot," we are commissioned to express to you their gratitude for your services to the cause of representative government and free institutions.

Deeply attached to representative institutions, and desiring their improvement wherever adopted and their progress throughout the world, we lament that in our country they are marred by the operation of debasing and tyrannical influences, the tendency of which is to destroy all sense of public duty in the elector—to falsify and suppress the genuine expression of public opinion—to exclude virtuous and able men from Parliament, and to perpetuate bad government and mal-administration. We, therefore, rejoice that your far-seeing care for the colony which owns you amongst her statesmen, provided that, simultaneously with the establishment of representative institutions, there should be thrown around them the invaluable safeguard and protection of the ballot.

The undoubted success of the measure, of which it is your just pride to be the author, by exhibiting the well-working of an electoral franchise, widely extended, and at the same time purified and protected, will promote the improvement of our institutions at home, and the progress, concurrently with civilisation, of popular rights throughout the world.

We gratefully acknowledge that the adoption of the ballot by our fellow-countrymen in Australia has greatly strengthened our hands, who are labouring to procure for the people of this country a free and protected suffrage, by enabling us to point to secret voting as already a British institution. We should inadequately express the obligations to you of the friends of free and protected voting in the mother country, if we omitted to convey to you their thanks for sacrificing that leisure, the enjoyment of which was the proposed object of your visit to your native country, by publicly narrating, on several distinguished occasions, in a manner long to be remembered by those who heard it, the history and success of the ballot in your colony.

In the name of the society, and of an immense number of our countrymen who anxiously look forward to the establishment of protection to the people's franchise, we thank you for your services to our cause, and wish all happiness and prosperity to you, to your family, and to the great Anglo-Saxon community of which you are a member and an ornament.

Francis Henry Fitzhardinge Berkeley, M.P., Geo. Grote, John Bright, M.P., De Lacy Evans, M.P., R. Cobden, Thos. Milner Gibson, M.P., W. J. Fox, M.P., T. P. Thompson, M.P., Edward Miall, Goderich, M.P., A. H. Elton, M.P., Samuel Morley, Edward C. Whitehurst.

It was moved by Sir ARTHUR ELTON and seconded by Mr. GREER.

Mr. NICHOLSON, in reply, mentioned some colonial experiences. Since the adoption of the ballot in Australia, numbers of persons had become converts to the system. Statements had appeared in the press of this country as to the bad working of the ballot, but these were wholly unfounded; the best order prevailed at the elections, and this was testified by the Attorney-General of Victoria, and others who had been leading opponents of the ballot. (Hear.) A member of the Legislature had recently written him to say that the ballot had done a great deal of good; the worst fault he had to find with it was that the electors did not vote as they ought. (Laughter.) But it was a sufficient answer to that they exercised their own free will. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. WYLD said that, at this moment, the advocates of the ballot in the House of Commons held the balance of power; and if Lord John Russell were to come forward at the present moment, and avow himself an advocate of the ballot, in a fortnight he might be Prime Minister of England. (Hear, hear.)

The thanks of the meeting were voted to the Legislatures and people of Victoria, Tasmania, and South Australia for adopting the ballot.

Postscript.

Wednesday, April 21, 1858.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords yesterday the Loan Societies Bill was read a first time.

The Marquis of WESTMOUTH, in presenting a petition, complained, in a speech of some length and great energy, of the intolerable nuisance inflicted upon the dwellers in Belgravia by the pertinacious performances of the itinerant barrel-organ grinders. Viscount DUNGANNON thought the noble marquis had made "much ado about nothing." The LORD CHANCELLOR put the question that the petition do lie on the table. It was decided in the negative.

On the motion of Lord REDSDALE, the usual sessional order was agreed to, that no new bill should be read a second time in that house, except upon special reasons, after the 27th of July next.

Their lordships adjourned at half-past five.

In the House of Commons, Mr. ROEBUCK gave notice that on Friday next he should inquire whether the Government intended to proceed further with the indictment for misdemeanour against Dr. Bernard.

Mr. BRADY announced that when the proposed stamp duty on bankers' cheques came before a committee he should move an amendment reducing the tax on all cheques below the value of 10s. to a half-penny.

In reply to Colonel NORTH, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that the royal commission of inquiry into the operation of the War-office warrant of October, 1854, had been nominated and would commence its sittings forthwith.

On the motion of Mr. VANCE, and after some discussion, a select committee was appointed to inquire into the special duties on ships, and other imposts levied in the port of Dublin.

Mr. COX moved for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the Act 1 Geo. I., c. 38, commonly called the "Septennial Act," and to limit the duration of Parliaments to three years. The motion was seconded by Mr. HADFIELD. The HOME SECRETARY questioned the accuracy of the hon. member's historical references. As a matter of expediency, he maintained that the seven years' limit, which had now lasted for 150 years, was, all things considered, the best medium between too great frequency and too long postponement of Parliamentary elections. The motion was rejected by 254 to 57.

Mr. LIDDELL called attention to the delay that had occurred in the construction of railways in India, and moved for a select committee to inquire into the subject. Mr. CRAWFORD seconded the motion, when Mr. BAILLIE described the steps taken to accelerate the construction of railways in India, and the difficulties which heretofore delayed the completion of several important lines. He believed that no useful result would be attained by the appointment of a committee; and looking on the motion as one of censure upon the Indian Government, could not give it his support. The house was cleared for a division, but none took place, the motion being agreed to.

Mr. DEASY moved for leave to bring in a bill to promote and regulate reformatory schools for juvenile offenders in Ireland. Leave given.

Sir E. COLEBROOKE obtained leave to introduce a bill to amend the law for the registration of county voters in Scotland.

On the motion for going into committee on the Galway Freeman Disfranchisement Bill, the HOME SECRETARY pointed out the anomalies and injustice of the measure. It proposed to punish the innocent together with the guilty; and while depriving the bribed voters of their franchise, left the bribers untouched. He moved, as an amendment, an instruction to the committee to insert in the bill provisions by which all electors who were proved to have given or taken bribes at recent elections should be rendered liable to the penalty of disfranchisement. Mr. FRENCH opposed the measure, which he considered altogether unjust. He moved that the motion for committing the bill should be deferred for six months.

Mr. CLIVE defended the measure.

Lord LOVAIN described some of the proceedings before the late commission of inquiry into the Galway election.

Mr. DEASY insisted that the certificates of immunity granted by those commissioners to witnesses whom they examined should protect the recipients from all pains and penalties.

Mr. MAQUIRE denounced the bill as being an unhappy compound of absurdity and injustice.

Mr. J. D. FITZGERALD remarked upon the comprehensive system of bribery which had been disclosed by the commissioners of inquiry. If the bill passed he did not apprehend that the penalty of disfranchisement would strike many innocent victims. Lord PALMERSTON also supported the bill, but expressed his dissent from the instruction proposed by Mr. Walpole. Mr. ROEBUCK followed with arguments, contending for an equality of justice towards all who had been guilty of corrupt practices. The house divided on the motion for appending the instruction to the committee: Ayes, 162; noes, 121; majority, 31.

A second division was then taken on the amendment of Colonel FRANKS, rejecting the bill, which was negatived by a majority of 236 to 51—175. The house then went into committee on the bill, but progress was ordered to be reported before any clauses were passed.

The house then adjourned a few minutes after one o'clock.

It is reported that our Government have demanded 1,000*l.* each for Watt and Park from the Neapolitan Government as an indemnification for their illegal imprisonment.

We (*Star*) have just been informed, but we are not at present in a position to say with what truth, that Joseph Cowen, senior, of Newcastle, has been arrested in France, where he was travelling for pleasure and health. Mr. Cowen, we believe, had some difficulty in obtaining his passport in London, on account of the well-known sympathy of his son with the cause of European liberty, and it is not unlikely that the French authorities have mistaken him for Mr. Cowen, jun.

The Paris Conference, according to the *Patrie*, will open about the 15th of May. The first question to be examined by the Conference will, it is said, be the delimitation of the Turco-Russian frontiers in Asia.

The *Vanderbilt* brings advices from New York to the 10th inst. General Harvey and the commissioners for Utah were to leave Washington for Fort Leavenworth on the 10th inst. The defeat of the Administration on the Deficiency Bill was immediately followed by defeat on the Lecompton question, the former by votes of Southern, and the latter by Northern democrats. The Senate will propose a committee of conference on Lecompton, and Government men believe they can carry it in the house. Colonel Benton, who was announced as dead, was still alive when the last advices left, although in a sinking state. The colonel is highly respected in the States. He is father-in-law of Colonel Fremont, and has been a member of the Senate for thirty years. News has been received from Utah, to the effect that Brigham Young had notified Colonel Johnson to leave the territory of Utah by the 10th of March, otherwise his troops would be annihilated. Young had also tendered to the army sufficient provisions to last them to the States. Speaking of the religious revival, the New York correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—

Some curious cases of conversion have occurred. One member of a common council which governed the city three years ago, and was so corrupt as to earn the appellation of "the forty thieves," has publicly declared his sincere repentance and detestation of his former courses. A noted pugilist, rejoicing in the sobriquet of "Awful Gardner," is also amongst the most enthusiastic of the converts, to the great edification of the faithful, and the great confusion of the scorners.

Those who know the intense devotion of the New York commercial world to the business of money-making—of New York sinners in general to their sins—certainly cannot help regarding crowded prayer-meetings a few yards from Wall-street, at the very busiest of business hours, as amongst the most curious phenomena of the day. In the more fashionable quarter, as might be expected, the movement wears a soberer character, but is not less general. A few of the Episcopalian clergy have denounced it as indicative of spiritual decline, and as "lowering the dignity of the priesthood;" those of all other denominations have gone into it heart and hand.

The contagion has spread far and wide. Every little New England town has now its three prayer-meetings a day, and its weekly list of "hopeful conversions." New York prayer-meetings telegraph "grace, mercy, and peace," followed by a string of scriptural phrases, and a verse or two of a hymn, to prayer-meetings in Philadelphia, and are answered, by the same means, in the same strain. The movement unquestionably, however sincere and praiseworthy in its origin, has reached either the border of extravagance or of decline.

The Turkish Government have just completed contracts with three English shipbuilders and three London engineers for ten war-steamers, ranging from 200 to 800 tons, to establish the Black Sea fleet allowed to them under the terms of the Treaty of Paris. It is thought the total cost will be little less than 300,000*l.*

MARK-LANE—THIS DAY.

Although the supply of English wheat in to-day's market was very moderate, the demand for all kinds ruled heavy, at Monday's decline in the quotations. The general quality of the samples was good. The show of foreign wheat was rather extensive, and the millers purchased cautiously. In currencies no change took place. Floating cargoes of grain were a slow sale. Owing to a large arrival, the barley trade was dull, on former terms. A dull inquiry for malt; but oats, beans, and peas, the supplies of which were moderate, were at extreme rates. The flour trade was heavy, and quotations barely supported.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 1858.

SUMMARY.

STATE trials for complicity in attempted political assassination are evidently as little in favour with the British people as conspiracy bills brought in at the instigation of a foreign power. The verdict of "Not Guilty" pronounced by the jury at the Central Criminal Court on Saturday in the case of Simon Bernard, and the extraordinary scene of popular excitement that accompanied it, can only be interpreted as a protest against those repressive measures of Louis Napoleon, which have led to the exile of some of the worthiest of his countrymen, and a proclamation to France that English feeling has no sympathy with the Imperial policy. The issue of this protracted trial is a lesson alike to the French and English Governments. The latter did their utmost to procure a conviction. All the resources of the police, the eloquence and skill of the Attorney-General, and the strong bias and hostile charge of Chief Justice Campbell, alike failed to present a case sufficiently complete to obtain the concurrence of an English jury. The twelve men who found Bernard "Not Guilty" only followed the example of the House of Commons. It has proved as difficult to convince a jury that a State trial ought to be decided without respect to the political circumstances out of which it arose, as to induce Parliament to believe that the Bill for amending the law of conspiracy, brought in by the Prime Minister in answer to a despatch from the French Government, was a simple improvement in our criminal code.

But apart from questions of public policy, the decision of the jury may be justified on the merits of the case. There were links wanting in the chain of evidence against Bernard sufficient to entitle him to an acquittal. If he conspired to murder any one, it was the Emperor of the French, not Nicholas Battie. It was alleged in his defence that, though a conspirator, the scheme of assassination was actually carried out by Orsini and his accomplices, without his knowledge or sanction. At all events, no adequate proof was forthcoming that he was an accomplice with them in the crime actually committed; and, whatever may be the value of presumptive evidence, it is certainly not in accordance with English notions of equity that a man is to be condemned as a participant in the acts of others over which he could not possibly have any control. The break down of the prosecution against Simon Bernard ought to satisfy the French as well as our own Government, that it would be even more impossible than impolitic to alter the English statute-book with the view of bringing its penalties to bear upon the authors of conspiracies against foreign sovereigns.

The unexpected result of the trial has, it is said, created "consternation" in official circles in Paris, but satisfaction elsewhere. The Bourne has scarcely felt the shock. It seems probable, however, that the Imperial Government will accept the defeat with becoming resignation, and allow the matter to be forgotten. The Emperor cannot afford to give up the appearance of friendly relations with this country, and it is not unlikely that the festivities attending the arrival of the Duke of Malakoff as French Ambassador to London, will be made the occasion for ratifying a policy of reconciliation.

Our Government is far more becomingly occupied in attempting to mitigate the annoyance

of the retaliatory measures of the French Emperor against this country, than in bringing our laws into harmony with his views. Lord Malmesbury deserves credit for his endeavours to abate the passport nuisance. The new plan sketched by him in the House of Lords is a great improvement on that of Lord Clarendon, whose contact with the bracing air of the Opposition benches has greatly revived his national spirit. It is refreshing to hear a Foreign Minister, present and past, denouncing the "great passport interest," expressing disgust at the imposition, and quoting the opinion of Louis Napoleon against it; though we should have preferred to see the two combining to reduce passports to contempt. Why not issue these tickets-of-leave to travel abroad without requiring any certificate of identity? It is however no slight boon to be able to obtain, on the recommendation of a mayor, magistrate, banker, clergyman (of any denomination), physician, surgeon, solicitor, or notary, a Foreign-office passport which will only cost two shillings, and last for life.

Mr. Disraeli has laid upon the table of the House of Commons the resolutions he proposes to move on Monday next as the basis of legislation for the future Government of India. They embody the leading features of his Bill, with the exception of the provision for electing some members of the new Council by popular constituencies, which has been wisely withdrawn. We regret that there is no resolution among the fourteen to be submitted having reference to the policy to be pursued in respect to religion—an omission which some popular member might very usefully endeavour to supply. To our thinking, the resolutions should strictly lay down the principles on which India should in future be governed, and we heartily agree with the opinion of the Dissenting ministers of the Three Denominations, "that, in any measure for this purpose which may be adopted by the Legislature, provision may be made for restraining the Indian Government, at once and alike, from any patronage on the one hand, or any discouragement on the other, of any form of religion, whether Pagan, Mohammedan, or Christian." Meanwhile Lord Palmerston's Bill stands for second reading to-morrow evening, and, from his remarks on Monday night, it would seem that he intends to ask for a verdict upon it, before discussing Mr. Disraeli's resolution. In that case India will, after all, be made the battle-field of party, and the welfare of our Eastern empire subordinated to the personal objects of a defeated Minister. We are much mistaken if the House of Commons will lend itself to this factious policy.

While the public is occupied by State trials, Ministerial difficulties and the future Government of India, it would be unreasonable to expect any sustained agitation for organic reforms. Though Lord Palmerston confesses that he has no Bill ready for a re-adjustment of the representation, it will be seen that the Reform Committee, whose labours we have from time to time recorded, have not only a definite scheme, but have obtained so general and spontaneous a response in its favour, that when the time comes for them again to work they will be backed by a moral support such as no other programme can command. That the feeling in favour of reform is quiescent and not dead, we have evidence in the meeting held last week in the Freemasons' Tavern to do honour to Mr. Nicholson, late Premier of Victoria and "the founder of the ballot in the British dominions." It was not only a worthy tribute to a deserving public man, but a fitting precursor to Mr. Berkeley's annual motion. "That opinion in favour of the ballot is extending"—the remark of the *Spectator*, a calm observer of political events—is evident to all who take note of the signs of the times. Were the Ballot Society as effectually represented in the House as out of doors, the reform would soon be something more real than an annual discussion. As Mr. Morley said at the soirée to Mr. Nicholson, if only fifty members would let it be known to the "Hayter" of the day that they were determined on having this question carried, the thing would be done, no matter what Ministry was in power.

The Earl of Derby has been giving audience to a deputation of noblemen, M.P.'s and others, to listen to their lamentations over the prospect of Church-rate abolition, and to quotations from our columns as to the ultimate objects of the anti-State-Church movement. The noble Lord could do little more than reciprocate the views of his visitors, at the same time insinuating that, if Church-rates could be abolished without sacrificing "the main principle" he should be very glad. But he announced that he had a present duty to perform, and would not flinch. "He could have wished that the Bill should not go into committee, but it would now do so, and then it would unfortunately be added to those questions that pass one House without passing the other." Rather a humiliating statement from the head of her Majesty's Government! But the noble

lord was obliged to be even more explicit. Viscount Dungannon said what the deputation wanted was that the Bill introduced by Sir J. Trelawny should be thrown out. The Earl of Derby said, in reply, that no doubt it would be thrown out, but not in the House of Commons, if his knowledge of that House was correct. We are then told that after this edifying interview the deputation retired greatly pleased with the result. It is to be hoped they will be present in the House of Commons to-day.

The two Houses of the American Congress are again in collision on the Kansas question. The Bill adopted by the Senate for imposing the Lecompton constitution was amended in the House of Representatives by adding the proviso that that constitution should be submitted to the vote of the whole white male population. The decision was made by a majority of eight, only one member being absent. The Senate has rejected the amendment, but the House has thus far stood firm. But it is feared that the Southern Know-nothings will at the last moment forsake their new faith and go over to the Administration. But the North is thoroughly aroused on the subject, and many of the recent State elections have turned upon the Kansas question and showed the strength of free soil feeling. Meanwhile the "religious revival" is vigorously sustained, though allied to much extravagance. That must be a dubious religious excitement which needs the electric wire for the transmission of messages of peace and brotherly love between New York and Boston. Praying by telegraph is a true "Yankee notion."

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, as our readers will bear in mind, is sacred, in Parliamentary procedure, at least during the earlier half of the session, to the use of private members. It is on this day, more than on any other, that hobbies are ridden, favourite projects are aired, and bills which independent members have got leave to introduce, are discussed and pushed into committee. Commonly, Wednesday is an Ecclesiastical field-day. Occasionally, indeed, questions of social philanthropy alternate with church questions on this day. Sometimes, the House refreshes itself with quasi-economical propositions, but it seldom or never ventures upon purely political debates during the morning sitting. To-day, it is to be occupied with the Church-rate Abolition Bill, which, if Lord Derby's prediction be fulfilled, Sir John Trelawny will succeed in forcing into committee. This day last week, the Irish members had their annual overhauling of the Tenant Right question—a sort of show debate, got up, principally, for the satisfaction of the Irish "people," and never likely to arrive at any practical issue. Our experience leads us to anticipate in every Tenant Right discussion a good deal of eloquent declamation, a rather profuse evaporation of Irish patriotism, a seemingly earnest conflict, and a resultless termination. Somehow or other, the debate on this subject almost always goes off in an indefinite adjournment, a withdrawal of the Bill, or some equally unsatisfactory proceeding. Last Wednesday, it was "talked out," and may or may not be heard of again—but it is tolerably certain that, for all practical purposes, it may as well be dropped for the present session. So long as landlords constitute the immense majority of our legislators, tenants are not very likely to make them answerable for improvements on their estates which they have not themselves expressly sanctioned.

The proceedings of Thursday evening were quiet, but not altogether useless. Mr. Spooner announced the postponement of his Maynooth question from last night till to-morrow week, and Mr. Locke King gave notice that he would ask the House to-morrow for leave to introduce a Bill to abolish the Property Qualification for members of the House of Commons—an amendment of the present system so distinct in itself, and so generally assented to as reasonable by all political parties, as to make it ridiculous to postpone it from year to year under the pretence of constituting it a feature of the "great and comprehensive" measure of reform hereafter to be propounded by nobody knows who. Lord Clarence Paget moved for an Address to the Crown praying "that all the expenses for the erection and maintenance of lighthouses, floating lights, buoys, and beacons, on the coasts of the United Kingdom, be henceforth defrayed out of the public revenue." The speech with which the noble and gallant member introduced this motion, was full of curious information lucidly arranged and clearly expressed—his tone was moderate—his positions fairly maintained—and, on the whole, he made a very favourable impression on the House. Here is an illustration in miniature of the inherent tendency of "double government"—waste, inefficiency, and obstruction to all improvement. The corporation of Trinity House, controlled by the Board of Trade,

presents the story of the East India Company, under another aspect, and in a narrower sphere. It is a pity that Lord Paget did not confine himself to the question of mismanagement—he would, perhaps, have succeeded more fully. But Ministers now-a-days are getting shy, and very properly so, of throwing local or special expenses on the consolidated fund—a strong-backed beast of burden, no doubt, but which, if doomed to carry everybody's crotchet, will one of these days prove unequal to the task. Mr. Henley agreed in the main with the noble member for Sandwich, whom, however, he accused of exaggeration. He objected to the motion as it stood, but would consent to the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the whole subject. Mr. Lindsay, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Cardwell, Lord Palmerston, and several other members took part in the discussion that ensued, and, acting upon the advice of the most influential and experienced of these honourable gentlemen, Lord Clarence Paget accepted the overture of the Government, and withdrew his motion.

Mr. Ayrton then moved for a select committee to inquire into the expediency of establishing tribunals of commerce. The hon. member is rather wordy, and withal somnolent. The House was all but empty, and some member, tempted by this aspect of things, ventured to move that the House be counted. The two-minute glass was turned—a due ransacking of lobbies, dinner and smoke-rooms was effected—and the member for the Tower Hamlets saved his motion. We are glad he did so. The new Solicitor-General (Mr. Cairns) consented, indeed, to a committee for the sake of getting at the best evidence *pro* and *con*—but his closely reasoned speech showed that he did not expect much beyond that from the labours of the committee. Lord John Russell seems to have accorded, in the main, with the Solicitor-General, as did most of the subsequent speakers. The motion having been agreed to, the Solicitor-General moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the course of procedure in the High Court of Chancery—the principal object of which is to enable the suitor to obtain in one court the complete relief to which he may be entitled. The measure was much commended by legal gentlemen on both sides of the House as a valuable instalment of law reform.

The usual motion, on Friday, for adjournment to Monday, opened the door to a variety of little way-side discussions. Mr. Thomas Duncombe treated the House to a rich scene. After commenting on the anomalous position in which the House and the country stood in relation to Parliamentary Reform, the hon. member gravely asked Lord Palmerston to lay before it a copy of the Bill for the amendment of our representative system, referred to in the speech from the throne at the commencement of the session. Lord Palmerston was obliged to confess, but of course, in the pleasantest and most jocose strain, that he had no Bill, and that, even if he had, he doubted whether the question was one to be properly dealt with by any private member—a sly hit at Lord John Russell! The matter was not pursued further, having been immediately superseded by some question concerning our commerce to Thibet, which, in turn, was followed by a critical review of the passport system, which, again, was thrown into the shade by the bridge in St. James's Park, and Sir B. Hall's pet London shrubberies. No sooner had this motion pushed its way to a settlement, than the equally convenient one for going into Committee of Supply was made. Mr. Brady, thereupon, drew attention to the circumstances connected with the failure of the Western Bank of Scotland, which, as usual, provoked a defence from the present and late Lords Advocate, and a warm discussion, not very creditable to Scotch authorities. This matter disposed of, the Nelson monument in Trafalgar-square became the subject of debate, and, at last, the House got into Committee of Supply, on the remaining Navy, and the Army Estimates. Sir John Pakington managed to tread on the toes of two preceding First Lords, and, was rather spitefully handled by them—but, on the whole, he had the whip handle against Sir C. Wood, and Sir F. Baring, and as he knew it, so he made them know it.

On Monday night, after a notice of motion given by Mr. A. W. Kinglake, which will open the whole question relative to the seizure of the *Cagliari* steamer, the Chancellor of the Exchequer made his expected financial statement in a speech of very moderate compass, and exhibiting a thorough mastery of his subject. Whether we look at the simplicity of the scheme propounded, the lucid style in which it was explained, the sound views that were occasionally expressed, or the adroit and good-humoured manner in which prejudices were conciliated, it was, perhaps, Mr. Disraeli's most successful appearance as a Minister of the Crown. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has to provide for a deficiency of nearly 4,000,000*l.*, after having

made reductions in the estimates to the extent of 800,000*l.* The income for the next year, allowing for the further reduction of 2*d.* in the pound on income-tax, is reckoned at 63,000,000*l.*, and the expenditure at 67,000,000*l.* In this latter sum, however, are included two items not actually arising within the year, but legacies of the late war; namely, two millions of Exchequer bonds just falling due, and a million and a-half of the Sinking Fund to pay off the war loans. The former are to be renewed till 1862-3; the latter payments suspended till there is again a surplus. To make up the remaining deficiency and leave a margin, he proposes to equalise the duty on Irish and British spirits, which is expected to yield half a million, and impose a penny stamp on all bankers' cheques, which it is hoped will produce 300,000*l.* Mr. Disraeli, not only refuses to stop the diminishing rate of the income-tax, but contemplates its entire extinction in 1860. To effect this desirable reduction he relies upon the improvement of the revenue by the revival of trade, the falling in of long annuities, and a careful and cautious revision of our expenditure. "When we have opportunity and time," he said, "we can submit the establishments of this country to such severe revision as they may require, and, with favourable circumstances, effect considerable retrenchments in those establishments." We hope the country will make a note of this.

Judging from the drift of the subsequent conversation, the reception of Mr. Disraeli's Budget was unusually favourable, especially the proposal to keep faith with the public in abolishing the income-tax. Three ex-Chancellors were present to criticise the plan of the Derbyshire financier. Sir G. Lewis was mildly critical, speaking with that reticence which indicates a hope that he may soon be called upon to resume official responsibilities. But Mr. Gladstone and Sir F. Baring both expressed a strong desire that the income-tax should be allowed to die out, and an equally strong conviction that that consummation can only be reached by a considerable reduction in expenditure. There seems little doubt that Mr. Disraeli's Budget, except, perhaps, the stamp on cheques, will be adopted by the House. It has also been favourably received on the Stock Exchange, which is indeed a triumph for the author of the financial abortion of 1853.

Various subjects were discussed at last night's sitting of the House, and a select committee granted, after some opposition, on the Indian railway system. Mr. Cox, the member for Finsbury, proposed to substitute triennial for septennial Parliaments. As he obtained only 57 votes, and no oral support except that of his seconder, we may presume that there were objections both to the mover of the proposal, and to the time of its introduction. But a division of great significance took place last night on the motion for going into committee on the Galway Freeman Disfranchisement Bill. Mr. Walpole moved an instruction to the committee to insert provisions, by which all electors proved to have given or taken bribes at recent elections, should be rendered liable to the penalty of disfranchisement. Lord Palmerston opposed the instructions, but on a division the Home Secretary obtained a majority of 31. Possibly this symptom of declining influence may induce the ex-Premier to pause ere he asks for an immediate vote on his India Bill.

THE BUDGET.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer has opened his Budget. No doubt, it was to him, if to no one else, a nervous moment. A great mistake would have sealed the doom of the present Ministry. The right honourable gentleman had to deal with difficulties which were not of his own making—to face a deficit which had arisen out of a policy for which he was no further responsible than other members of Parliament—and to keep faith, if possible, with the country, by permitting the reduction of the income-tax, notwithstanding the existing excess of expenditure over income to a serious amount. Mr. Disraeli, we must say, has discharged his very ungrateful task in a manner which reflects the highest credit on his financial ability. His proposals are temperate, cautious, and, as it strikes us, statesman-like, characterised by sound common sense, and by scrupulous good faith. We predict, for his Budget, as the consequence, complete success.

The review of the commercial condition of the country with which the Chancellor introduced the specialities of his financial statement was reassuring. It will not, we hope and believe, prove to have been taken in an over-sanguine spirit. It is cheering to learn that we have just come out of a period of great difficulty and even danger, with national resources essentially unimpaired. It is some solace to know that if we are called upon to deal, at the present moment, with a serious deficit, that deficit is not due to failing revenue. All the great branches of our income—customs, excise, stamps,

and even assessed-taxes, exhibit a gratifying buoyancy, indicative of the soundness of our general commercial prospects. The difference between our engagements for the coming year, and the revenue we may reasonably expect to realise, consists, in the first place, of debts which we have bound ourselves to repay, and of taxes which we have arranged by statute to remit. Thus, we have tied ourselves up by law to discharge 2,000,000*l.* borrowed by the Aberdeen Ministry on Exchequer bonds—and by the operation of the Sinking Funds, general and special, 1,500,000*l.* more are added to the claims to be met during the financial year upon which we have just entered. Even this additional burden might have been met in great part, if our taxation were to remain in *status quo*. But, it must be remembered that by an act of prospective finance settled in 1853, and only suspended during the war with Russia, the income-tax was to diminish from 7*d.* to 5*d.* in the pound, and this would cause a loss to the Exchequer during the present year of about 1,000,000*l.*

What, then, does Mr. Disraeli propose? He is anxious to keep faith with the country. He estimates the whole expenditure of the year, including the liquidation of these debts, at 67,110,000*l.*; and the whole revenue of the year, supposing the remission of twopence in the pound on the income-tax to be carried into effect, at 63,120,000*l.*, leaving a deficit of 3,990,000*l.*, or, in round numbers, four millions sterling. He says, he cannot suddenly reduce expenditure so as to square it with this income. The process of reduction requires, in order to produce any sensible and permanent relief, much investigation, accurate calculations, and mature thought. The Derby Ministry have been able to propose some reductions on the estimates of their predecessors, which, in the aggregate are far from trivial; but to do so to any very large extent demands more time than has been yet allowed them. He points to some items of civil expenditure which are rapidly running up to an alarming height, and he hints at the necessity of Parliament coming to some definite conclusion in regard to Education, which, he informs us, already amounts to 1,000,000*l.* annually, and which, in a few years, he calculates from materials before him, will reach at least three or four millions sterling. At any rate, he contends that it would be impossible for him, on the spur of the moment, to surmount the financial exigencies of the coming year, by any wholesale and abrupt cutting down of the estimates.

On the other hand, he is as little disposed to suspend the statutory descent either of the tea duties or of the income-tax. Financially, he believes it would be the easiest and the best arrangement—but what may be financially right, he argues, may be also politically wrong. The fact is, the public bore with patriotic equanimity the suspension of their expectations by the necessities occasioned by the Russian war. Not a murmur was then heard, although the income-tax, which was to have gradually diminished from sevenpence in the pound, rose almost at a bound to sixteenpence. It would be impolitic to take undue advantage of this admirable patience, especially if no overpowering exigency could be pleaded for so doing. We believe he is right. The worst thing which a Chancellor of the Exchequer can do is to show himself indifferent to the performance of public engagements, solemnly made, and deliberately embodied in an Act of Parliament.

The plan, then, submitted to the House on Monday night by Mr. Disraeli in his clear and able statement, was, in outline, as follows. He recommended that the Special Sinking Fund system, which he regarded as based upon an erroneous principle, and as being practically injurious, should be either put an end to by repealing the Act, or, at least, suspended in its operation, until the Exchequer bonds were provided for. These latter he thought it would be unjustifiable to "fund," because such a course would be contrary to the conditions laid down by Parliament when they were originally issued—but he would postpone the payment of them until the easier times that might be reasonably anticipated. These two arrangements would relieve his obligations to the extent of 3,500,000*l.* He would still require 500,000*l.* to equalise the annual income with the expenditure, and he thought it but prudent to provide for a surplus of about 300,000*l.* This could only be effected by new taxation. He proposed, therefore, to raise the spirit duties in Ireland to the level on which they now stand in England and Scotland, making the impost the same in all the three kingdoms. This, he calculated, would give him an additional half million sterling. And he further intended to put a penny stamp upon all cheques that were drawn, which would supply him with about 300,000*l.* more.

The grand features of the plan, it will be seen at a glance, are the postponement to a time when

we can better bear it, of the payment of extraordinary obligations falling due this year—the allowing such reductions in the tea duties and income-tax as also by Act of Parliament have been settled, to take effect without interruption—and the raising of about 800,000*l.* by means of an equalisation of the spirit duties, and a penny stamp on checks.

There is no great originality in this Budget. It does not bear upon it the impress of splendid financial ingenuity. But it strikes us as having the higher recommendation of being characterised by strong common sense, of being well suited to the immediate and even the prospective exigencies of the country, and of honestly keeping faith with the tax-paying public. It was set forth by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in a speech of solid worth—sustained by arguments of undeniable force—and received in a general spirit of approbation. For ourselves, we confess, we have been agreeably disappointed, and we are free to admit that Mr. Disraeli shines more in office than in opposition. The whole plan will no doubt undergo minute criticism—but we agree with Mr. Baxter in the opinion that it is characterised by great prudence and discretion, and in the hope that it will receive the general assent and acquiescence of the House.

LIBERALS OR TORIES?

We see with regret that many of our Liberal contemporaries, both metropolitan and provincial, are disposed to condemn the policy and acts of the Derby Government without that discrimination which might be expected from journals that prefer public interests to party ends. It is easy enough, for instance, to denounce the course Ministers propose, at the suggestion of Lord John Russell, to take in legislating for India, as dictated by a desire to rescue themselves from a dilemma, and to save their places at the expense of their bill. If the paramount object of the friends of progress be to turn out the present Administration as speedily as possible, and bring back to office Lord Palmerston and his personal friends, such a partisan view of the present situation is quite intelligible. But those who are indifferent to the struggles and manoeuvres of party, who regard the necessities of statesmen as the people's opportunity, and whose chief aim is to extract from the rival candidates for power such concessions as will promote good government and improve our institutions, will be desirous of taking a broader and wiser estimate of current events.

The *Times*, which, from some unexplained cause, has become almost more Palmerstonian than Palmerston himself, is in the habit of attempting to frighten the public with its lamentations over the evils of a Tory Administration. Well, we have now had two months of a Derby government. Has it proved an incubus to the nation? Has its course thus far been marked by reactionary measures? If "measures not men" be a true maxim in political affairs, the country has certainly gained by the change of Derby for Palmerston.

We are undoubtedly better off in our foreign relations under the present than the late Premier. We have got rid of the Conspiracy Bill, the first legislative measure ever proposed by a British Minister at foreign dictation. So far, Lord Derby has proved a better guardian of the national honour than his predecessor. Instead of Lord Clarendon's slovenly device which have made passports unavailable to all but a select few, and occasioned the most serious annoyance to English travellers, Lord Malmesbury has reduced the nuisance to a minimum by allowing the "certificates of identity" which will obtain foreign passports to be attested not only by mayors and magistrates, but by clergymen of the various Christian denominations, physicians, surgeons, solicitors, and notaries. One of the last acts of the late Foreign Minister, whose Austrian sympathies were notorious, was to all but conclude an engagement by which the Vienna Government were to construct a submarine telegraph from Corfu to Alexandria with English capital. Under the new Government this singular arrangement will at least be considerably modified. When Lord Clarendon retired, the English engineers were still wasting their health in a Neapolitan dungeon where they had lain utterly neglected by Lord Palmerston's Government for six months, and the law officers of the Crown had declared that there was no legal redress to be had. Since the advent of Lord Malmesbury, Watt and Park have been released, the diplomatic correspondence on the subject has been promptly produced, the new law officers have pronounced the detention and imprisonment of two British subjects illegal, and Ministers have demanded compensation from the King of Naples for the wrong inflicted.

But it is in domestic politics that the greatest measure of public advantage has accrued from the change in the personnel of the Government. We have exchanged the autocracy of a popular Minister, supported by the blandishments of an all-powerful whipper-in, the denial of informa-

tion as to the acts of the Executive on questions of public concern, for real Ministerial responsibility. Mr. Disraeli, the great advocate of government by party, has given the deathblow to his own darling theory, by inviting the House of Commons to take the initiative in legislation for India—to lay down the principle which Ministers are afterwards to embody in a bill. The precedent marks, not only the extinction of partisan government, but the more complete realisation of government by as well as for the people. It has been reserved for the much-dreaded "Tory" Government to take a step which greatly augments the power of the popular branch of the Legislature, and give the fullest development yet known in this country to the true theory of representative institutions. Whatever India Bill is now evolved from the Parliamentary crucible will be the product of the combined wisdom of the House. It will be the result of conviction, not of votes—the outcome of statesmanship rather than of whipping-in diligence. Why then should our Liberal friends take so much trouble to abuse Lord John Russell and Mr. Disraeli, whose necessities have suggested so great a concession to Parliamentary Government?

Lord Palmerston ruled the House of Commons—the House of Commons rules Mr. Disraeli. Which is most acceptable to the great Liberal party? If, with the one, we get only Foreign-office mystification, the snubbing of members who "want to know" what the servants of Parliament are doing, a few useful measures, and enormous "promises to pay," and, with the other, a policy towards other countries which is firm, frank, and popular, and an apparent desire to frame measures acceptable to the majority—the public have not much reason to be dissatisfied with the change. Good measures are better than a "strong Government."

For the present, then, the Derby Ministry, so far from having exhibited Tory or reactionary tendencies, have done more to support the national honour abroad and extend popular freedom at home than their predecessors. Why should we quarrel with them? Why be frightened by a mere name. It was a "Tory" Minister that carried Catholic emancipation and the repeal of the Corn Laws. It is a Tory Minister that has abandoned the fiction of Ministerial autocracy by confessing himself the servant of the people's representatives.

THE WAR IN INDIA.

THE FALL OF LUCKNOW.

A despatch from Trieste, professing to give some further particulars, in anticipation of the Bombay mail, says:—"The villages on the route of the army of Oude are deserted. The army has directed its march on Rohilcund, which is still in insurrection. Nana Sahib is at Calpee, preparing to penetrate the Deccan, in hopes of being joined by the Marhattas. Bala Sahib, the brother of Nana Sahib, is ravaging Rohilcund, levying contributions. General Rose is marching after him in the same province, the troops suffering from the extreme heat. An advance has been made on Jhansi, where 15,000 insurgents are in arms. General Campbell has officially communicated that he will attack Calpee, in combination with Generals Rose and Whitlock. A considerable body of the rebels has reappeared in the vicinity of Cawnpore. The executions at Delhi and in other cities continue. Some natives of Kolapore ordered for execution have denounced two native officers who sat as judges; the two officers have been shot. Sir William Peel's wound, received at Lucknow, is reported to be dangerous."

By the Bombay mail which arrived on Monday, detailed intelligence has been received from Lucknow to the 13th of March. The *Times* publishes a long letter from Mr. Russell, describing the siege down to that date. It is written principally from the Dilkhoosha, which, till that date, was head-quarters. The Dilkhoosha itself, and the prospect from its roof, he thus describes:—

Emerging from the park, which put me, somehow or other, in mind of Greenwich during the fair time, perhaps on account of the trees, the dust, and the noise, through an arched gateway in front, at a short distance, stands the Palace of the Dilkhoosha, built evidently on an Italian model, with a flat-terraced roof, turrets covered with gilt ovals and spires, and mounted with plaster statues of nymphs and clumsy Graces and Apollos. The line of rising ground on which it stands bounds the view in front, so that only the strange summits of the Martinière are visible, and on the right flows, in a clear bright stream, meandering in many curves through a wide expanse of corn-fields, studded with groves of fruit and forest trees, the river Goomtee, which takes its name from its nature—*nomen ab refectione*—the "winding." As we approach the Dilkhoosha inch after inch the Martinière comes in sight, behind it an expanse of trees and enclosures, shut in by a high bank of tawny earthworks which is the first line of the enemy's defences. To the left this bank again appears, bounding another vast suburb, above the trees of which rise the domes and spires and minarets of a magnificent city. The whistling of round shot from the Martinière which tear up the

earth close at hand, warns us to get under cover, and so we make for the Dilkhoosha, which we find strongly occupied by the 42nd Highlanders. The hall retains traces of its departed splendour; the gilt frames of pictures and of huge mirrors still adorn its walls; our men are lying on a marble table, with richly gilt legs, and the roof and sides of the room are bright with fanciful frescoes and colourings. One of the winding staircases of the turrets conducts us past many fine corridors and suites of rooms up to the roof, the parapets of which are lined with the Highlanders. I looked into some of these apartments, and I must own the style of the decorations surprised me. The chimney-pieces of mosaic and marble, with gilded fretwork, the frescoed roofs, the ceilings covered with paintings of hours amid clouds, with medallion heads of short-waisted, befrizzled, and bebonneted English beauties, borderings of wild animals in chase, and representations of the various celebrities of the Indian zoology—the size and lofty dimensions of the rooms, the coloured glass of the shattered windows, all gave the place an air of taste and luxury which one scarcely expected to find in a Lucknow palace, and which indicated very certainly the existence of an Italian architect and decorator, whose views had been controlled by an Asiatic. From the roof the summits of the Residency, of the mess-house, of the Kaiserbagh, of the Secunderbagh, of the Shah Nujeeb, and of many other places unknown to us, were visible in a widely-spread panorama on our left.

The details given show that the British troops conquered not less by the superiority of their morale, than by the superior knowledge of the art of making war, practically displayed by Sir Colin Campbell, and his lieutenants. The defences, regarded from the front, were far more formidable than were anticipated. The line of works constructed before the canal were tall earthworks, well built, well armed, and lined with a sufficient force to defend them. It is evident that the rebels anticipated an attack in front, and that they overlooked altogether the defence of the north side of the Goomtee, which alone could have given security to their position in the canal. The movement of Outram across the river not only upset all their calculations, but it was absolutely a surprise; and the bridge by which he passed was half finished before the enemy offered the faintest resistance. Even when Outram's force was fairly in position a few rounds of cannon shot, a smart fire of skirmishers, or the glance of a score of sabres, sufficed to drive all thought of a serious movement against him out of the heads of the leaders of the enemy. The Kaiserbagh was seized on the 9th. Our loss at this side in gaining this considerable success was trifling, as will be seen from the following return:—Our losses on the 9th, in the assault on the Martinière, &c., were:—Her Majesty's 42nd Highlanders—2 men killed and 12 wounded. Her Majesty's 93rd Highlanders—4 men wounded, 2 dhooly bearers wounded, 1 ditto killed. Her Majesty's 90th Regiment—1 killed, 1 wounded. On the 8th a dhooly bearer of the 34th killed. Her Majesty's 53rd Regiment—J. McCarthy, C. O'Brien, and G. Richardson wounded. On the 10th the success was followed up, and the whole line of the enemy's works fell into our hands, from the canal up to the bend beyond Banks's house. The 68th were established there, and a very severe cross-fire was opened with Outram's guns on the centre of the enemy's defences. The Secunderbagh fell without a blow. We have only room for the following additional extract:—

SIR COLIN AND THE GHOORKAS.

LUCKNOW, March 12.—Sir Colin carries on his successful career, slowly but surely. He has pushed on step by step, cautiously feeling his way, as far as the Begum's Palace in the Huzur Gunge; and he is thus within 200 yards of the Karsis Bagh. In three days more he will probably date a despatch from that palace. His losses have been comparatively speaking trifling; but many good fellows have bit the dust. Amongst them is Hodson, whose horse have acquired a European fame. He was shot through the body yesterday (the 11th) and I fear his wound is mortal. At four p.m. yesterday, Sir Colin held a grand Durbar in honour of Jung Bahadur. The Jung came attired in all the splendour of barbaric pearl and gold, satins, diamonds, and Bird of Paradise plumes; and his retinue was arrayed as never was Solomon in all his glory. Sir Colin, in all the agonies of a cocked hat, and his staff with sacrificial dandyism, came forth to meet him as he approached the great Durbar tent. And grandly solemn, and most in-supportably wearisome, were the ceremonies that followed. Things were proceeding in the due routine of dull propriety, when suddenly there was a row as if of "the Volscians coming over the wall." The Jungites looked as if they thought they were about to be treacherously butchered, the Colonites utterly perplexed, when in rushed Captain Hope Johnstone, General Mansfield's Assistant Adjutant-General, fresh from the fray, and begrimed with every imaginable abomination, shouting "Yoicks—Hurrah," or some such encouraging address, to his friends in the undress circle, and flinging forward his fine, manly, soldier-like form, he reported to the Chief in the full sonorous voice of one of Nature's generals, the successful operation which Mansfield had just brought to a close. The effect was magical. The unfinished programme of solemn nonsense was cast to the winds. The carefully prepared speeches were sent to the limbo of forgotten things. The Chief seized the Jung's hands, the Jung grasped the Chief's. The Jung grinned, the Chief laughed, and each man looked as if he wished to pitch into his neighbour, as the simplest mode of expressing his intense satisfaction; for the victories had been achieved with the aid of our Ghoorka allies.

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

Never since its discovery has the electric telegraph played so important and daring a rôle as it now does in India. Without it the Commander-in-Chief would lose the effect of half his force. It has served him better than his right arm. While Sir Colin Campbell was at Cawnpore he could learn from Sir James Outram the results of an attack before the enemy had disappeared from the field. As he advanced towards Lucknow the line was carried with or soon after him; a tent was pitched near his, a hole was dug in the ground and filled

with water, and down dropped the wire from the pole stuck up in haste, dived into the water otter-like, the simple magnet was arranged, the battery set in play, and at once the steel moved responsive to every touch. Owing to the extreme dryness of the atmosphere and the power of the sun—which at this season bakes the earth like a brick, the insulation of the current is nearly complete. The wire is thick, and is not protected by non-conducting coatings of any kind; it is twisted round the top of a rude pole, fifteen or sixteen feet high, and under ordinary states of the atmosphere, it is found to answer perfectly. We had not been very long in the Dilkhoosha ere we saw, in dim perspective, the line of posts advancing towards us, and soon the wire was slipped into one of the drawing-room windows, and now it is at full work, surrounded by all the shattered splendour of the palace.

Our Calcutta correspondent states that all the regiments that have been much in action are weak-handed; and the actual English force in Northern India cannot be reckoned at much more than 30,000 effective men.

The native Christian police, enrolled by the authorities at Burrisal, as a special protection, have been discharged by the direct order of Mr. Halliday, on the ground that one class of the community ought not thus to be ranged against others. The residents, however, not convinced by such logic, in the face of practical danger, have taken them into their own pay.

In spite of all the earnestness with which the Ministry stick to the Governor-General, nothing can be more clear than the fact that he is simply incompetent to the crisis into which he has unfortunately been thrown. If he is to remain, the fact will be proved beyond all doubt when the time for reconstructing the Government arrives.

The dull monotony of our faithful ally the Nizam has been moved by the native authorities at Aurungabad having permitted a suttee to take place there lately. His Highness many years ago proclaimed that the performance of the suttee would be considered a crime, and is it not wonderful that with Nizam's troops in the native city of Aurungabad, and the British Contingent troops two miles off, the above funeral Brahminical rite was allowed to take place!—*Bombay Standard*, March 20.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

The effect which the acquittal of M. Bernard will have upon France and the Continent can scarcely at present be known. In Paris it has been remarked that the *Moniteur* of Sunday did not announce the verdict, though known the night before to the Emperor and all the officials.

The *Constitutionnel* contains an article signed by M. Renée, the director, in which it is said:—

"No honest man in France or England can doubt the guilt of Bernard. We will only say to those of our neighbours who desire the maintenance of good relations between the two countries, that if the speech of Mr. Edwin James, filled with gall, with calumnies, and with insults against the Emperor, the people, the army, and our institutions, should unfortunately be circulated in France, in the cities, the barracks, and the country towns, it would be difficult for the Government, with the best intentions, to stay the effects of public indignation."

The *Daily News* correspondent writes:—

Amidst the fury and vexation which the announcement produced at the Tuileries, it was impossible to decide at once upon the way in which the matter was to be officially represented to the French public. Whether indignation, indifference, or expectation of help from the British Legislature are to be exhibited, is yet doubtful. The surprise at the verdict is at least as great as the disappointment. The worst that was expected was that, after a verdict of guilty upon the facts, the fifteen judges would have declared that the Act of Geo. IV. did not apply to the case, and then the Ministry would have had a fair ground for asking the Parliament to supply a *casus omissus* in legislation. But better than this was hoped for. Mr. Edwin James's speech is a great political event. Frenchmen who can read English are flocking to-day to all the reading-rooms and cafés where English journals are taken in, for the purpose of reading the speech. Of course only a garbled version of it is given in the French papers. The *Débats* honestly says that the general tone of the speech is such that it cannot venture to print it at all.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times*, writing on Friday, reports, on good authority, that, within the last five or six days, the Emperor declared to a person with whom he was conversing, that his determination was not only to have no quarrel with England, but to remain her friend and ally.

The four Opposition deputies, M. Emile Ollivier, member for Paris, Darimon (Paris), Hénon (Lyons), and Curé (Bordeaux), were placed in a state of great embarrassment by the receipt of an invitation to dine at the Tuileries on Monday week. M. Emile Ollivier declined the honour in the following note, addressed to the Emperor's principal chamberlain:

I beg you to thank the Emperor for the invitation to dinner which you have sent me by his order, and to inform him that I cannot accept it.—I have the honour, &c., EMILE OLLIVIER.

M. Darimon and Hénon, without consulting either each other or M. E. Ollivier, also sent letters of refusal. M. Curé, after much hesitation, decided to accept the imperial hospitality. The Emperor, delighted at finding his mahogany possessed attractions too potent to be resisted by at least one of the systematic opponents of his Government, treated M.

Curé with marked courtesy, and talked with him for a long while.

The Opposition have now named their candidates for Paris. They are M. Lionville, M. Jules Favre, and M. Ernest Picard, all lawyers. Marie, the member of the Provisional Government of 1848, was at first thought of, but he refused to stand, because he thinks his name is not popular. He is altogether opposed to the policy of abstention, and refuses solely from scruples, too rarely felt, lest compliance with the wishes of his friends might be injurious to the common cause. The Government candidates are General St. Armand, M. Lepeux, a manufacturer, and General Perrot. The voting will begin at eight on Sunday morning (the 25th inst.) and will finish at four in the afternoon of the 26th.

Gomez, one of the Orsini conspirators, formed one of the band of convicts lately embarked for Cayenne. The camp of Châlons is to be exclusively composed of troops of the line, to the number of 50,000 men.

The Council of State has, it appears, postponed the project of law modifying the tax on railroad shares and other such public securities to next year.

The French Government has sent an energetic note to Portugal on the subject of the recent seizure of a French vessel which was about to land blacks upon Portuguese territory.

A Paris correspondence in the *Indépendance Belge* asserts very positively that the Queen of England is going to visit the Emperor at Cherbourg this summer on the occasion of the opening of the railway there. The Duke of Malakoff, it is said, is charged to present the invitation, and Lord Cowley's *congé* has been taken in order that he may be in England to make the necessary suggestions and arrangements. The same correspondence says that the project of assembling the Toulon and Brest fleets at Cherbourg has been abandoned by the Emperor in order to avoid giving any shadow of offence to England by a display of force so near her coasts. The two fleets will meet for their customary evolutions off the Isle of Hyères. This change is represented to be a symptom of satisfactory relations between the Courts of St. James's and the Tuileries. [A very doubtful report.]

ITALY.

The debate on Count Cavour's Conspiracy Bill, the rejection of which the special committee recommended, begun in the Sardinian Chambers on Tuesday week, and was very animated. MM. Della Margherita, Boggio, and Mamiani, were the first speakers. On Wednesday, the main speakers on that day were Signor Bufla, member of the Majority, and Signor Brofferio, the leader of the extreme Left, and a member of the majority of the committee which proposed the rejection of the bill. The former openly confessed that he would vote for the bill, because he dreaded nothing more than diplomatic isolation, which might be highly prejudicial in future to Sardinia. Signor Brofferio said that the 2nd of Dec. had produced the 14th of January, and that Sardinia, which had nothing to do with either, ought to be left in the free exercise of her own institutions. The bill he described as an attempt against Sardinian liberty and independence. On Saturday Count Cavour himself delivered a speech that made a great impression. He said France was the only ally Sardinia could reckon upon with safety—even imperial France. The war in the Crimea and the Congress of Paris had, he said, produced one of those moral changes which ordinarily precede material ones. The Piedmontese Government well knew that its policy displeased certain powers which were interested in maintaining the slavery of Italy, and he considered it as indispensable that Piedmont should keep up good and strong alliances. The first and the second republic in France had never done anything for Italy, while the Napoleonic dynasty had always shown itself more favourable. The President of the Council concluded by declaring that the Ministry made this bill a Cabinet question, as the Ministers who presented it considered themselves incapable of bringing in a measure contrary to the dignity of the nation.

The Sardinian Government, through Count Cavour, has issued an elaborate protest against the act of the Danubian Commission, composed of delegates from riverain States, which, in establishing regulations for the navigation of the river violates the letter and the spirit of the treaty of Paris. By that treaty the navigation is to be free, but the Commission would impose so many restrictions upon non-riverain States that the navigation would cease to be free. Moreover, the act ought not to have been promulgated until it had been submitted to the Paris Congress from whom the Commission derived its power to make an act. This protest has been sent to the Governments that signed the treaty of Paris.

Mr. Hodge, from his prison, has warmly thanked Count Cavour for "the great liberality, kindness, and noble conduct evinced towards me by the Government of this country—a conduct which I shall never forget, and which, I am sure, will be duly appreciated by my fellow-citizens."

The Neapolitan Government has fitted out a small squadron to be commanded by the King's brother, Count Aquila. It is interpreted as a menace to Sardinia.

It is said that there is a prospect of settling the dispute about the *Cagliari* by arbitration, the King of Holland being spoken of as the arbitrator. Another report is that the question will stand over for the Paris Conference.

A letter from Piacenza, of April 10, in the *Unione* of Turin, says that the concentration of Austrian troops upon the Sardinian frontier is occasioning much remark.

AMERICA.

In the United States House of Representatives, on the 2nd inst., the bill for the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton constitution was amended by substituting for it Mr. Crittenden's proposition. This was also amended by striking out the portion that prohibited any but citizens of the United States from voting in the territory upon the question of acceptance or rejection of the constitution, and in several other but unimportant respects; and the bill was then passed by a vote of 120 yeas to 112 noes. All the members of the house were present except Mr. Caruthers, of Missouri, who has been absent during the entire session on account of sickness. The Crittenden substitute, as it is called, is a voluminous affair, but its actual provisions are simple. It provides that the Lecompton constitution shall be submitted to the white male inhabitants of the territory, resident there three months, and qualified to vote by the laws of Kansas. If the majority approve, then Kansas is to be admitted as a State by proclamation of the President. If a majority disapprove, then a convention is to be called to form a new constitution, which is to be submitted to a like popular vote.

In the Senate, on the 2nd, the bill for the admission of Kansas, as amended by the house by the substitution of the Crittenden plan for the Lecompton constitution, was taken up, and after remarks by Messrs. Douglas, Bigler, and Pugh, the bill was disagreed to by a vote of 32 to 22.

A later telegram is, that the House of Representatives has adhered to its vote on the Kansas question. The bill, therefore, passed by the Senate for the admission of Kansas is lost.

In the Senate the bill providing for the employment of five regiments of volunteers was amended so as to reduce the number of regiments to three—one to be employed on the frontiers of Texas, and the others in protecting emigrant and Government trains on their way across the plains—and in that shape passed by a vote of forty-one to thirteen.

The Anti-Lecompton victory in the house was commemorated, in New York, on the night of the 2nd, by a salute of 120 guns, fired from the battery at sunset, and a display of fireworks in the park in the evening. The names of John B. Haskins and Horace F. Clark, the two Democratic members from the city who voted with the majority, formed the centrepiece of the final display.

The steamer *Sultan* was burnt to the water's edge, and sank near St. Genevieve, Mobile, about three o'clock on the morning of the 2nd inst., and between fifteen and twenty persons are supposed to have lost their lives by the catastrophe. The *Sultan* was bound for New Orleans with a full cargo of produce, which, together with the boat, will be a total loss.

The steamships of the Collins line—the *Adriatic*, the *Baltic*, and the *Atlantic*—were sold at auction on the 1st inst. by order of the Sheriff. They were sold together, and brought 50,000dls. The liens on the property amount to 657,000dls. The vessels are valued at 2,500,000dls.

We have news from British Honduras to the 11th inst. Great alarm and excitement prevailed in consequence of the capture of the city of Beccalor by the Yucatan Indians, and the massacre of some of the inhabitants. Troops had been sent up to Rio Hondo to protect the inhabitants of the settlements.

Peace prevails in the Republic of Chili, and trade had revived in Peru.

It is said that a proposition had been favourably entertained for the amalgamation of all the banks of New York City into one great institution, similar in its workings to the Bank of England or the Bank of France.

Elections in various parts of the country were resulting favourably for the Republicans. It was reported that the President would appoint a commission to proceed to Utah for the purpose of inducing the Mormons to yield obedience.

According to the *New York Herald*, negotiations were proceeding for the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty.

CHINA.

The *Times* special correspondent says:—"Personally, Lord Elgin would very probably like to finish a successful embassy by a progress to the Chinese metropolis, but not at the expense of the real objects of his mission. I am inclined to think that the Emperor will yield, and that the interest of the China expedition is over."

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The *Zeit* of Berlin contradicts the report that Queen Victoria intended to pay a visit to the King of Prussia in the course of next month.

In the first three months of this year there were 1,495 failures in the United States, with liabilities for 30,639,000 dollars.

Mr. Layard, having travelled through the Nizam's dominions and the Rajpootana States, is on his way to Calcutta, and expects to arrive in England in the course of next month.

It is said that the French Government has given up the intention of forming a settlement in Cochinchina; but satisfaction for injuries will be exacted, and a treaty favourable to the Christians demanded.

The Neapolitan fleet is composed of 16 sailing and 29 steam vessels, mounting 746 guns in all. The Sardinian fleet consists of 6 sailing and 12 steam vessels, mounting 316 guns.

The *Semaphore de Marseilles* brings news of a shoal of anchovies chased by tunny fish into the roadstead of Toulon in such enormous quantities that the harbour assumed the aspect of vermicelli soup, and 1,000,000 (300,000 kilogrammes) of these delicate sardines were secured. Buckets, hats, handkerchiefs, and

baskets were replenished *ad libitum* during Easter week, the affrighted fish not daring to leave the shore while the tunny squadron was off the coast.

The Paris *Patrie* now admits that the population of France is decreasing, while the physical powers of the inhabitants also decline: it attributes the misfortune to the insufficient food of the working classes, and the want of gymnastic exercises.

It is stated that the Lamartine subscription has proved a complete failure. It is a characteristic feature of the French nation that, however great and genuine their enthusiasm, it never stands the financial test.

Madame Orsini, with her two daughters, has, it appears, gone to Nice, and not to England, as was announced. She will probably reside in Florence, her native town, where her mother is living. Her father, Signor Ercole Lorenzi, who died some years ago, was physician to the Grand Duke.

There was a terrible conflagration at Christiansa on the night between the 13th and 14th inst. Three-quarters of the city are reported to have fallen a prey to the flames; among other buildings, the Bank, the Exchange, and other public offices are a heap of ashes. The money and papers of the Bank were saved. The loss is estimated at 10,000,000 fr.

The town of Velletri has been the theatre of a strange little drama. Its cathedral possessed a famous image of the Madonna. In the Holy Week this image is screened from public view. One morning the priests discovered that it had been stolen. The chief priest received the next morning a note signed "Vendetta," a brigand, offering to restore the image if his brother were released, and himself pardoned and pensioned. The authorities demurred. Vendetta lowered his terms; but the negotiation made no progress. On Easter Sunday, finding no image in its place, the people grew furious. Vendetta suddenly appeared in the cathedral, and declared, amid popular applause, that he was ready to restore the image if the Government would perform its part. By temporizing, however, the authorities obtained their opportunity to seize both the brigand and the image, restoring the statue to the cathedral and transmitting Vendetta to Rome.

TRIAL OF DR. BERNARD.

VERDICT OF ACQUITTAL.

The trial of Simon Bernard under the Special Commission was resumed at the Central Criminal Court on Wednesday. On that day many witnesses were examined. M. Righerzi, of Brussels, gave corroboratory testimony as to the arrival of the grenades in Brussels. Cassimir Zeguere, a waiter, narrated how he was hired by Orsini, as "Allsop," to take a horse by railway to Paris, and to convey the "gas balls" in a carpet-bag. "When I arrived at the frontier I got out and showed the carpet-bag, when asked, to the douanier at the Custom-house. This was in the middle of the night. The balls were taken out of the carpet-bag for inspection at the Custom-house. I took them out of the bag myself. I cannot tell whether they were all taken out. Those taken out were in halves. I was asked at the Custom-house what the use of them was. I said they were used for a gas invention. They were passed without objection." Mr. Hollis, of Birmingham, proved the purchase of two revolvers by Orsini and Pierri. Mr. King, clerk at the railway-office in Regent-circus, described how Bernard had sent a box containing two revolvers to M. Outrequin, at Paris. King asked him if he were going to Paris; and he answered, "No; I shall go there when the other one comes back here"—King understood him to refer to the Emperor. M. Outrequin deposed to Bernard's introducing Orsini to him as "Mr. Allsop;" to the receipt of letters from Bernard, and of the pair of pistols; and to the removal of one of the pistols by Orsini. Madame Outrequin corroborated part of her husband's evidence, and stated that she gave the second pistol to a person calling himself Pierri. It was stated that the passport with which Bernard travelled had not been recovered: Bernard had said that it was burnt. Eliza Rudio, wife of one of the men convicted at Paris detailed how Bernard had called on her husband, provided them with money—as they were in a destitute state—clothed her husband, and arranged that he should go to Paris. He went. Bernard agreed to pay a weekly sum to Mrs. Rudio during her husband's absence. After the 14th January he sent her to her grandmother at Nottingham; she was to go by her maiden name; she was to take no notice of anything she saw in the papers respecting her husband. He wrote to her under the name of "William Thompson," saying that "some benevolent people" had agreed to send her money by post-office orders. The cross-examination of this witness was cut short by the illness of one of the jurors.

Before the Court adjourned, Mr. James said he should be glad to be informed by the judges whether they thought it most advisable that an argument in extenso should be taken upon the questions of law that were involved in the present inquiry at the close of the case for the prosecution, or whether he should make a brief statement of the points that were relied upon, and then that the matter should be left for full consideration at a future period. The Lord Chief Justice said that the Court was of opinion that the purposes of justice would be better answered by the learned counsel stating shortly and distinctly the legal points upon which he relied, and then that the questions of law so raised should be solemnly argued before the fifteen judges.

The case for the prosecution came to a close on Thursday. The additional evidence adduced, corro-

borated that previously given, directly connecting Bernard with the acts of Orsini, Rudio, and Pierri.

Mr. James postponed his address in defence, and handed in a statement of the points of law upon which he depended, and which he wished reserved. The Court agreed to reserve all the points except the seventh, upon which they had already pronounced an opinion; and to take the opinion of the fifteen judges on them, should the verdict go against the prisoner.

On Friday, as soon as the court had assembled, Mr. James rose for the defence. He said that this was a most extraordinary prosecution, for the law had never been put in force in this way before, but it was brought about under the dictation of foreign authorities, who, not content with the blood of Orsini and Pierri, sought to stain an English scaffold with the blood of the gentleman now standing at the bar. What, he asked, was the origin of these proceedings? A demand had been made by the Emperor Napoleon; a Conspiracy Bill had been attempted to please him, which had been rejected by the House of Commons; and then the Treasury lawyers were ordered to ransack old Acts of Parliament, in order that a special commission might be appointed to try the man upon a charge of wilful murder. The Act of Parliament had nothing to do with the present case, and never was intended to apply to such a case, but it was an experiment on the part of the Crown to try whether, through the assistance of a jury, that right of asylum, which was the glory of this country, might be invaded, because they had not the courage to bring the question before the English House of Commons. Mr. James then entered into an historical account of the whole affair. He analysed the evidence at great length, with a view to show that the prisoner was really ignorant of the conspiracy against the Emperor, and argued that the prisoner was engaged in making and forwarding fulminating materials for an *emeute* in Paris, or an insurrection in Italy. He denied that the grenades with which the prisoner had to do in Brussels were those that had been thrown at the Emperor, and he urged that not a single document had been found which implicated Bernard in the special acts with which he is charged with being accessory. He concluded a long and eloquent speech by the following appeal to the jury: "Let me urge you to do your duty fearlessly, conscientiously, and firmly. Let me implore you to let the verdict be your own, independent of French armaments, of French regiments, of French war, of French invasion. Let him, if he is planning his armament for us, know that he cannot intimidate an English jury. Tell him that on this spot you have resisted the Crown, backed by the power in former days of Crown-serving and time-serving judges—tell him that on this spot you have established by your verdicts the principles of liberty—tell him that the jury-box is the sanctuary of English liberty—tell him that 600,000 French bayonets may flash before your eyes, and that French cannon may roar in your ears, but that such things will never intimidate you in your verdict—tell him that the verdicts of English juries are founded upon principles of eternal and immutable justice, and that you will find your independent verdict, regardless whether it renders lasting or shatters for ever a throne which a despot has raised upon the liberties of a mighty people." (The conclusion of the learned counsel's speech was greeted with a tremendous cheer, which the officials of the Court vainly attempted to suppress.)

The Attorney-General, in his reply, pointed out to the jury that if Orsini and other persons were in any way connected with an attempt of a political character, and any persons were slain, they were guilty of murder, and all and every person who furnished them with any kind of means for the intended purpose were accessories before the fact of the crime of murder. He then analysed the evidence of some of the witnesses, and said there could be no doubt but that the prisoner had passed the pistols into France; had engaged a person to go there and meet Orsini; that grenades were sent; that murders were committed; and that those very pistols and grenades had been afterwards found as the instruments with which the murders were committed. He contended that the grenades which had been introduced during the trial were the actual instruments with which the murder was committed. It was true the witnesses had varied a little with respect to the form of those missiles, but the evidence had proved to demonstration that such was the fact. If the prisoner had sent these grenades to Brussels for a lawful purpose, what use could there have been to have resorted to the many subterfuges that had been proved? It had been suggested that those grenades had been sent to Orsini, not for the purpose of assassination of the Emperor of France, but to aid a general rising in Italy. He felt great confidence in stating that there was not a scintilla of evidence alluding to a rising in any part of Italy. He felt sure that the evidence had proved one thing—viz., that the prisoner at the bar was well acquainted with Allsop, and the fact of Allsop's passport being found on Orsini was a strong point in the evidence. The letter of Allsop found in the possession of the prisoner was a direct instigation to assassination, and, coupled with the raising of large sums of money by Allsop through the instrumentality of the prisoner, showed that there was a strong identity of feeling between them. The Attorney-General then went *seriatim* through all the points of the evidence affecting Bernard, and in conclusion asked the jury, with every disposition to put the most favourable construction on all the circumstances, what other conclusion could they arrive at but that the assassination of the Emperor Napoleon was intended? One thing was quite certain, that the foul offence could never have been carried into execution without the aid of agents in this country. The arms

were made here, the scheme was planned here, and the jury, he felt sure, would not hesitate in bringing to condign punishment the man who had rendered that assistance, and who was the prisoner at the bar.

At the meeting of the Court on Saturday, there was a crowded attendance, both inside and out, which increased as the day wore on. Upon the bench, besides the judges, were Sir W. Fraser, M.P., Mr. Trefusis, M.P., Mr. C. Forster, M.P., Lieut.-Colonel Byng, General Fox, Mr. Ashley, Mr. A. Baring, Mr. T. E. Burton, Mr. S. Gurney, Sir R. Mayne, many members of the Court of Aldermen, and several civic functionaries. Among the ladies present were Lady Caroline Lamb, Lady Stirling, Miss Campbell, Mrs. Ashley, and others.

Lord Campbell, in proceeding to sum up the evidence, after thanking the jury for their devoted attention during their protracted sitting, reminded them that they were judges of the fact. His lordship then passed in review the whole of the evidence, which he made to bear hard against the prisoner. In conclusion he said:—

The offence with which the prisoner is now charged is that of being accessory to a plot for assassinating the Emperor of the French, which produced the death of Nicholas Battie, one of the Gardes de Paris, whose life was sacrificed upon that occasion; and unless you believe that the prisoner was implicated in that conspiracy I think that he is entitled to your verdict. But if you believe that he—as there is strong evidence to show—being acquainted with Allsop's views, and knowing that Allsop had got these grenades, assisted in having them transported to Brussels; if you believe that he bought in this country the materials for making the fulminating powder with which those grenades were charged; if you believe that, living in this country and owing a temporary allegiance to the Sovereign of this country, he sent over the revolvers with the view that they should be used in the plot against the Emperor of the French; and if you believe that he incited Rudio to assist the three others assembled in Paris, knowing what their design was, and that he gave him money for that purpose, then it will be a fair inference, I think, to draw, that he had a guilty knowledge of that plot. But, gentlemen, it is for you to draw your own conclusions. The verdict must be yours, and yours alone, based upon the evidence which has been adduced, without any consideration of our Government at home or of any foreign Government. I will only advise you, if you come to the conclusion that the party accused had that guilty knowledge, and that he was an accomplice in that conspiracy, not at all to be led away or to be deterred from doing your duty by any apprehension that your verdict will interfere with that asylum which it has been the glory of this country to afford to persecuted foreigners. That is a glory which I hope ever will belong to this country. That asylum, however, remember, amounts to this—that foreigners are at liberty to come to this country and to leave it at their own will and pleasure, and that they cannot be disturbed by the Government of this country so long as they obey our laws; but they are under the same laws as native-born subjects, and if they violate those laws they are liable to be prosecuted and punished in the same manner as native-born subjects of the Queen. Treat Simon Bernard in this case as if he had been born within the metropolis of the empire to which you belong; let this case be exactly the same as it would have been (and I don't believe that in point of law it makes any difference) if he had been a native-born subject. I advise you, at all events, to treat him as a native-born subject, and if you find that he was implicated in the conspiracy against the life of the Emperor of the French—that he had a guilty knowledge and a guilty purpose, and that he did plot with others the death of the French Emperor—I think it will be your duty to find a verdict of guilty. With these observations, gentlemen, I leave the case in your hands. If you have any reasonable doubt of the guilt of the prisoner, give him the benefit of that doubt; but if you have not it will certainly be a duty which you owe to yourselves and to your country to find the prisoner guilty of the offence with which he is charged in the indictment.

Immediately at the conclusion of the summing up, and before the jury had retired, the prisoner, with much warmth of tone, vehemence of gesture, and rapidity of utterance, exclaimed:—

I declare that the words which have been spoken, or quoted, by the judge with reference to the balls are not correct, and that the balls which were taken by Giorgi to Brussels were not those which were used in Paris. I have brought no evidence here because I am not accustomed to compromise any person. I declare that I am not a hirer of assassins, and that Rudio, as he stated on his trial in Paris, himself asked to be sent to Orsini. I declare that I have not hired assassins, and that of the blood of the victims of the 14th of January there was nothing in my heart more than in that of any one here. My only wish is to crush despotism and tyranny everywhere. To effect that I have conspired, and I will conspire ever, because it is my duty, my sacred duty, and the duty of every lover of liberty to do so. But, never, never will I be a murderer.

At the close of this address, so unlike anything one is accustomed to hear in a criminal court in this country, the jury retired to consider their verdict, it being then twenty minutes to three o'clock. They had been absent upwards of half-an-hour, when the intimation was given that they had agreed upon their verdict. Instantly silence was restored the prisoner was placed in the dock, and the audience waited with breathless interest the announcement which was to decide his fate. After a few moments of anxious suspense, however, it transpired that the jury had not agreed, but that the mistake had arisen probably from their sending some communication to the judges, and the prisoner was again removed from the dock. Then there was another long interval, during which the anxiety of the crowd seemed to deepen as the time wore on. The spectacle which the court then presented was of the most animated and exciting description. Precisely as the clock struck four an intimation was given that the jury were returning, and in an instant the loud hum of conversation which had prevailed for upwards of an

hour subsided into profound silence. The prisoner reappeared in the dock. The judges entered and resumed their accustomed places on the bench, and the jury, who had been absent for an hour and twenty minutes, answered to their names as they were called over in the usual way.

Mr. Clark, the Clerk of Arraignment, addressing the jury, said,—"Gentlemen, are you agreed upon your verdict?"

The Foreman: We are.

Mr. Clark: How say you? Is Simon Bernard Guilty or Not Guilty?

The Foreman: Not Guilty.

On the announcement of this decision a scene occurred unexampled, perhaps, in an English tribunal. From the gallery first, and then in an instant afterwards from the floor of the court, proceeded a loud shout of exultation. The cheering was again and again repeated—the excitement was contagious—and many of the ladies of quality present waved their handkerchiefs in token of their delight. Vainly did the Lord Chief Justice endeavour by voice and gesture to still the tumult, and as powerless were the stentorian lungs of Mr. Harker, though exerted to the utmost, to restore silence. The prisoner, who was extremely excited, flourished his white pocket-handkerchief over his head, and several times attempted to speak. By this time the verdict had reached the ears of the crowd assembled outside the Old Bailey, and the rapturous cheer which they raised, and after repeated, could be distinctly heard within the court. The judges, unable, and perhaps unwilling, to check this spontaneous ebullition of popular feeling, but yet not liking to sanction it by their presence, rose to depart.

Bernard at length made a successful attempt to be heard, and addressing the jury, said, with much vehemence of manner—

Gentlemen,—That verdict is an expression of the truth. I am not guilty, and it proves that in England there is and always will be liberty, which will crush tyranny, whatever and wherever it may be. All honour to an English jury. (Renewed cheers.)

When the judges re-entered and took their seats on the bench, the Attorney-General stated that the second charge which the Special Commission had to try, being similar to the first, and requiring the same evidence, would not be gone into. The prisoner was, therefore, in a formal manner also adjudged Not Guilty, upon the second indictment. The jury as they left the court escorted by the Under-Sheriffs, and proceeded to their hotel on Ludgate-hill, received an enthusiastic ovation from the crowd assembled in the Old Bailey. Dr. Bernard was taken back to Newgate.

Yesterday Mr. Edwin James moved the Court of Queen's Bench for a writ of *habeas corpus*, returnable immediately, to bring up Dr. Bernard, now in Newgate on a charge of conspiracy, to be admitted to bail. Lord Campbell said the learned counsel might take a writ of *habeas corpus*, and the prisoner might be brought up for discharge this afternoon. After consulting with the other judges, he said they should require the defendant to be bound in his own recognizances to the extent of 1,000*l.* with two securities of 500*l.* each.

Last night Dr. Bernard was present at Wyld's Reading-rooms, Leicester-square. He was received with very warm congratulations, and made a speech on the occasion of his health being drunk.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen held a levee on Wednesday afternoon at St. James's Palace. Mr. Justice Byles was presented to the Queen by the Lord Chancellor, when her Majesty was graciously pleased to confer the honour of knighthood upon him. A number of presentations afterwards took place. At a Court, on Friday, at Buckingham Palace, Marshal the Duke de Malakoff had his first audience of the Queen, and delivered to her Majesty his credentials as Ambassador from his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French.

On Monday, the Count de Neuilly, the Princess de Joinville, and the Duke de Nemours, visited the Queen at Buckingham Palace. Her Majesty and the Prince Consort honoured the performance at the Princess's Theatre with their presence in the evening.

The Prince of Wales has been visiting Killarney, Bandon, &c., and has of course excited much interest. It is reported of him that in one of his trips he would ride outside the car to see the country, in spite of the rain. He will not visit Dublin.

The Hon. Lady Inglis has had the honour of personally relating to her Majesty the details of the siege of Lucknow. Her ladyship attended by command at Buckingham Palace, and the Queen listened with the most intense interest to the story of the sufferings and heroism of that gallant band who so nobly sustained their country's honour and renown during a period of almost unexampled danger and distress.—*Court Journal*.

It is now definitely arranged that the Queen will visit Birmingham in the middle of June. She will be the guest of Lord Leigh, at Stoneleigh Abbey.

The dinner to be given by the members of the United Service Club to Field-Marshal Pelissier, Duke of Malakoff, will take place to-morrow, April 22, at a quarter before eight o'clock. The Duke of Cambridge will preside on the occasion.

Lord Cowley, the British Ambassador at Paris, arrived in London on Monday.

Sir John Patteson, of Feniton Court, near Honiton, has been appointed governor of King's College, London.—*Western Times*.

Mr. Walter Leith, formerly the superintendent of the Great Northern, has been appointed secretary in

the room of Mr. Mowatt. This change has induced, we understand, Mr. Denison to withdraw his resignation.—*Herapath's Journal*.

On the 16th inst. the three Directors of the East India Company nominated by the Crown, viz., Lieutenant-General Sir George Pollock, G.C.B.; Major-General Sir John Robert Hussey Vivian, K.C.B.; and John Pollard Willoughby, Esq., M.P.; took the prescribed oaths and their seats. The three Directors who were re-elected on Wednesday last, viz., William Butterworth Bayley, Esq., Russell Ellice, Esq., and Henry Thoby Prinsep, Esq., have also taken the prescribed oath and their seats. Sir Frederick Currie, Bart., was chosen chairman, and William Joseph Eastwick, Esq., deputy chairman, for the year ensuing.

Mr. Charles Dickens read his "Christmas Carol" on Thursday night to a large audience in St. Martin's Hall. The performance was for the benefit of the hospital for sick children. Mr. Dickens will also read some of his popular works again on the 29th April, the 6th and 13th May. On these occasions the profits will not be devoted to any institution. On the 29th inst. he will explain the origin and object of these three ulterior readings in a few prefatory words.

Mr. Charles Pearson has recently been managing the Whitecross-street Prison, as governor, pro tempore. The Court of Aldermen, on Wednesday, voted their thanks to him.

A deputation from the medical corporations of Great Britain and Ireland waited upon Mr. Walpole on Saturday, and expressed their strong disapproval of Mr. Cowper's Medical Bill, while they highly eulogised that brought forward by Mr. Headlam. Mr. Walpole returned a vague reply, and did not pledge himself to any specific course of action.

No fewer than 1,050 men of the Royal Artillery at Woolwich are now provisioned from the cooking apparatus invented by Captain Grant. Besides the hitherto eternal boiled meat, the men now enjoy stews and roasts, or rather baked dishes. Twice a week each mess has its baked dish of meat. A committee appointed by the Commander-in-Chief to inspect the new plan seem to be very favourably impressed with its excellence.

Marshal Pelissier, Duke of Malakoff, landed at Dover on Thursday. He was received by General Maunsell, Commandant of the district, and the Duke of Richmond, the Marquis of Donegal, and the Marquis of Londonderry, commanders of Militia regiments. The Marshal recognised among the officers present some of his old companions in arms. The Mayor and Corporation welcomed him with an address of congratulation, to which he replied, in French, as follows:—

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,—I thank you with every feeling of gratification for the reception you have accorded me upon my arrival here. Nothing could have afforded me greater pleasure than my appointment as Ambassador to this country, and it will always be my earnest desire to preserve those cordial relations which have hitherto existed between France and England. If this pleasure could have been enhanced, it has been by my meeting on landing here several in whom I recognise old comrades.

He immediately took his seat in the train for London. He has taken up his residence at the French Embassy, Albert-gate House.

The Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce has agreed to petition in support of Mr. Adam Black's bill abolishing the Annuity-tax.

The revised army estimates show a net reduction of 110,632*l.*

A deputation of persons anxious that the tax on paper should be removed, waited on Lord Derby on Thursday. They were led by Mr. Milner Gibson. Among them were four other members of Parliament, and several persons from different parts of the country. Two memorials in support of the object of the deputation were read and presented to Lord Derby; and several gentlemen enforced their views by word of mouth. Lord Derby allowed that a great deal may be said against the Paper-tax in point of principle, and he admitted that the securities taken against fraud do place the manufacturer under great disadvantages. If the Government had succeeded to an overflowing exchequer, they might have looked favourably on a proposal to reduce or take off the duty; but as the Government had to provide for increased expenses, he could hold out no hope that during the present year the duty would be taken off. But if it should please the country to retain a Conservative Government in power for two or three years—(a laugh)—and if, as some members of the deputation had been pleased to say, a Conservative Government managed affairs more cheaply than a Liberal Government, they might possibly at the end of that period be able to do what the deputation now required.

The Earl of Derby has received a memorial from the bankers, &c., of Manchester, calling attention to the convenience that would result from the issue of gold five-shilling pieces in place of the large silver crown now in circulation.

Miscellaneous News.

THE STATE PROSECUTIONS OF THE PRESS.—Subscriptions have been entered into at Manchester in aid of the defendants to these prosecutions, and the committee report a fair amount of success both among the middle and working classes. Efforts making in the surrounding towns are also said to have been well responded to.

EXHIBITION IN 1861.—On Wednesday the Council of the Society of Arts passed general resolutions in favour of holding decennial exhibitions showing the

progress of art and industry; that they should not be a repetition of the Exhibition of 1851, but should exhibit "works selected for excellence." The Council will proceed to consider how these resolutions can be carried out.

THE BARBAROUS MURDER AND ROBBERY of an old couple named Bucknall, resident in Coombe-lane, about four miles from Taunton, was discovered last Wednesday. The brains of the old man had been blown out by a gun discharge, and the throat of the woman was cut from ear to ear. The house was stripped of some few trinkets and 40*l.* in gold. The grandson of the old couple has been arrested on suspicion.

THE FLORAL BAZAAR AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE last week was very successful. On Wednesday there were upwards of 6,000 persons present. The exhibition is not exactly a flower show, as the directors did not offer any prizes, but they did not make any charge to the exhibitors, to whom every facility was given both for the sale and exhibition of their flowers. The flowers exhibited consisted principally of camelias, heaths, primulas, hyacinths, tulips, narcissi, rhododendrons, anemones, kalmias, ferns, cacti, lilies, and other plants. On the first day from 1,000 to 1,200 plants were sold, and the amount of money taken was from 80*l.* to 100*l.* The show closed on Saturday.

WIFE MURDER AT ROCHESTER.—On Sunday morning a very deliberate murder was committed in St. Margaret's-street, Rochester, by a railway labourer named Turner. On Saturday night Turner and his wife, and a man named Taylor, with whom Turner had for some time suspected his wife of a criminal intimacy, were drinking together at the beer-house. Turner and his wife returned home about twelve o'clock, but the woman did not go to bed, having, as she stated, some ironing to do. About four o'clock in the morning her husband got up, and missing his wife, proceeded to the beer-shop, where he found her in the company of Taylor. He then went home and waited until her return, which was about five o'clock. As soon as she entered the room he knocked her down with a poker, and then cut her throat with a razor. She died instantly. He gave himself up at the police station.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.—The programme put forth by the London Committee has received the adhesion of thirty-seven members of Parliament, and the approval of many others who promise their support, but for various reasons decline to attach their names to the document. Public meetings, very numerous attended, have been held at Bradford, Blackburn, Bolton, Carlisle, Derby, Halifax, Huddersfield, Hanley, Leith, Norwich, Preston, Stockport, Salford, Worcester, Woolwich, &c., at which resolutions and petitions to Parliament have been adopted in favour of "the broad outline of Reform" advocated by the London Committee. Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Edinburgh, and Glasgow have each an independent movement in co-operation with the London Committee. At Oldham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Rochdale, the Tower Hamlets, Walsall, Nottingham, and some other places, the demand has been extended as far as "Manhood Suffrage." The Northern Reform Union, having its headquarters at Newcastle, is doing good service. The London Committee, have in no case employed an itinerating agent, and have confined themselves to extensive correspondence and the co-operation of the press. The movements in the provinces have been unusually spontaneous, and sanctioned by local ability and resources. A Reform Bill cannot be introduced in the House of Commons by any party this session; and whenever it is carried, it must be a Government measure. But the topic will be kept before the public by Messrs. Locke King, Berkeley, Caird, and others, who have given notices of motions on subjects of detail. The London Committee, we have reason to believe, are fully alive to the duty which arises from the present entanglement of political parties, and are determined to spare no pains on their part, in co-operation with the country, to render it impossible for any Administration, which will not give a genuine Reform Bill, permanently to retain office.—*Morning Star*.

Law, Police, and Assize.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.—IMPORTANT JUDGMENT.—Vice-Chancellor Stuart gave judgment in the well-known case of *Brook v. Brook*. The main facts may be briefly recapitulated:—Mr. Leigh Brook married, in 1850, Emily Armitage, the sister of his deceased wife, and the marriage took place in Denmark. By that marriage there were five children. Both the parents died in 1855, and the eldest son by the marriage, to whom the testator had given real and personal estate, died in 1856; and the question now was who, upon his decease, was entitled to the realty and personalty. The case was argued in November last, before his honour, who was assisted by Sir C. Cresswell. That learned judge gave a strong opinion that, although marriages of the kind were legal in Denmark, they were not legal when the parties married were British subjects, and domiciled in this country, inasmuch as they carried the British law with them wherever they went. His honour (Vice-Chancellor Stuart) decided that the marriage in question was null and void, and that the real and personal estate had in consequence become vested in the Crown.

THE NEW DIVORCE COURT.—Sir Cresswell Cresswell delivered judgment on Friday in the Divorce Court on the case of *Hope v. Hope*. Here Mrs. Adrian Hope has instituted a suit for a restitution of conjugal rights. Husband and wife had reciprocally

proved each other guilty of adultery in anterior proceedings for divorce. The question now was, could the wife insist on a restitution of conjugal rights. Although by the canon law she could, yet by the ecclesiastical law of this country she could not. It has been expressly declared in two cases by the Court of Queen's Bench that under such circumstances a suit for the restitution of conjugal rights would be dismissed by the Ecclesiastical Courts. In his humble judgment, the rule upon which the Queen's Bench proceeded in those cases was sound in principle and calculated to be beneficial in its operation. He had therefore come to the conclusion that this suit for the restitution of conjugal rights could not be maintained by the wife, and that the husband must be dismissed.

THE ASSASSINATION AT PORTSMOUTH.—The preliminary inquiry into this case is not yet concluded. On Monday several witnesses gave testimony without throwing any material light on the affair. The solicitor for the prosecution said he had no more evidence to offer, and the Court again adjourned to allow the prisoner's solicitor time to prepare for his defence. The prisoner is the brother of the deceased.

Literature.

Switzerland the Pioneer of the Reformation. By Madame la Comtesse DORA D'ISTRIA. Translated from the French by H. G. Two Vols. London and Edinburgh: Fullarton and Co.

In France and Austria, it seems, it is not uncommon for Switzerland to be denounced with an intense hostility, in which mingle political prepossessions and religious prejudices; and it might be supposed from such declamations, that all the most monstrous social theories and tendencies, all the most dangerous forms of error and unbelief, and all the worst passions of atheistic socialism, had their home, and lived in riot, on the shores of Leman, and by the banks of the Aar and the Limma! The cause is apparent enough. Switzerland's traditions—how nobly she won, and how gallantly maintained her independence,—and her present free political organisation, are suggestive of danger to the continental absolutists, who see in all liberal ideas the germs of communism, anarchy, and a return to barbarism! And Switzerland's part in the grand religious emancipation of the sixteenth century, her glorious group of reformers, and her persistent refusal to own the legitimacy of the pretensions of the Pope, these make her hateful to the supporters of the authority of Catholicism, to the Jesuits, and to the Court of Rome.

With such a general view of the position of Switzerland amidst absolutist and Romanist enemies, the aim of the noble woman—noble alike in blood and in moral sympathies and aims—who has written this book, is, to inspire the traveller in Switzerland with an interest in its social and religious history, as well as in its sublime scenery; and to make it felt by the lover of freedom in national and ecclesiastical life, that Switzerland's place and significant testimony are absolutely vital to the future of liberal ideas in Europe. To this end, therefore, the Countess D'Istria bends all her historical and personal materials, to give a brief picturesque, stimulative account of the elements of the Swiss Confederation, the intellectual and moral habits of its people, its social state, its political organisation, and its religious opinions. As a framework for these materials and the discussions arising out of them, the author gives descriptions of the Swiss scenery, taking "a semi-circular sweep from Schaffhausen to Bâle," placing historic events upon their proper scenes, giving biographical sketches of the more illustrious men, and furnishing passing indications of the lessons of individual lives and of the influence of public movements on the progress of Europe. The author's plan is to take the German, French, and Italian elements in Swiss life and history in separate volumes; and the present work is the first instalment, treating solely of the German element (*La Suisse Allemande*), and chiefly of the religious stand made by Switzerland in the Reformation era. The historical materials are drawn not only from standard works, but also from documents made accessible to the writer by learned professors at Berne, Geneva, and Zurich; and they are reproduced sometimes in pictures the most brilliantly distinct, sometimes in desultory narrative of a singularly eloquent and interesting character. The personal sketches display lively appreciation and power of vivid portraiture. The descriptions of scenery are always charming—perhaps a little too laboured occasionally,—with a gem, now and then, of exquisite word-painting. The limits within which our quotations would require to be confined, do not permit our doing justice to either of these elements of the contents of the book. But we may indicate the great variousness of subject, by simply naming Zurich,—with Zuingli, as the representative of religious reform, and Bodmer, of literary reform, with Lavater as Evangelical minister, and Pestalozzi as leader in popular education, with Escher von der Linth, as the type of a patriot, and Dr. Strauss—as

what?—at any rate, as represented and dealt with by our author, in the fairest possible spirit of criticism. So, too, we may name Basle, with great Erasmus, its adopted son, with its Holbein among painters, its Ecolampadius and the theologians, its Paracelsus and the doctors, its Euler and the mathematicians:—and so we might proceed as to other places included within the Countess D'Istria's sweep of German Switzerland.

But who, now, is "the Comtesse Dora D'Istria," who, we are told, "has recently burst like a meteor above the literary horizon of continental Europe?" There is a portrait in the first volume of this translation of her work,—a splendid profile, magnificent chest, the union of sweetness and power, a very Roman woman:—but, though this portrait has an autograph, "Dora D'Istria," at the foot, one does not know positively whether this is really the portraiture of the author of the work, or only a part of the mystification which, perhaps necessarily, has attended its publication on the continent. For the truth is, *Dora D'Istria* is the "nom de plume" of a Princess of "the illustrious Ghika family, who have long enjoyed almost a monopoly in the elections to the position of Hospodar of Wallachia; and she is, in fact, niece of the present Caimacan." A child of the Latins, in her infancy trained by an English *bonne*, afterwards carefully instructed by a very eminent Greek professor, and finally her education completed by a residence at Dresden, she has become, at the age of twenty-nine, an elegantly-accomplished and learned woman, and a writer of wide and well-deserved reputation. She is a member of the Greek Church, and glories in contrasting its history, dogma, worship, and relations to political society, with what the Church of Rome is in all these respects. She is not, however, blind to the many defects and faults of her Church—though she protests earnestly against the *Russian* form of its existence as a sheer *corruption*—and is rather the disciple of the Eastern Church she finds in the pages of the Greek fathers she issued to have studied so thoroughly, than really conformed to the present order of things. As one of Eastern blood, she is fond of a splendid ritual, and desires scope and expression for imagination, taste, and the warmer order of feelings, in the arrangements of public worship; but *doctrinally*, she is in perfect sympathy with the Reformation; and evidently leans to that Protestantism which she understands so well, and which she identifies with the highest intellectual and social movements, and with the freest political institutions, of the last three centuries. Certainly, the Pope and the Ultramontanists have no more decided enemy than this brave-hearted, pious woman; and, perhaps, this work is adapted to do good service against Romanism on the continent, as well by its peculiar structure and character, as by its remarkable authorship. We believe it is destined, also, to a very extended diffusion and high popularity in our own country; and it has our sincere commendation to our readers, as an eloquent, instructive, and wise-spirited book, which we are right glad to see so effectively reproduced in English.

The Protestant Theological and Ecclesiastical Encyclopedia. Edited by Dr. J. H. A. BOMBERGER, D.D. Parts V. and VI. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

THIS valuable work has been continued to its sixth part, since we commended it to our readers. We are not inclined to abate any of the praise we have given it. It certainly is often less satisfactory as a "condensed translation" of Herzog than we hoped it might prove,—some of the "additions," made for the sake of English students, and relatively to subjects little considered by German theologians, are not quite in keeping with the learning and accuracy of the original work,—and there are trifling incongruities and blemishes, which might readily be removed by a little more editorial care. On an instance of the latter, our eye falls at this moment, in the name "*Morus*, Prof. at Cambridge," which is hardly, for England, if for anywhere, an intelligible mention of the Cambridge Platonist-divine, Henry More. But, after all drawbacks—and even after fifty times more than have really to be made—this is incomparably the most complete, learned, and available work on biblical and ecclesiastical encyclopædia, that has been brought within reach of the English student. In the numbers now before us, some of the principal articles—and they are of the highest excellence and value—are, Calvin, by Herzog; Canon of O. Testament, by Oehler; Canon of N. Testament, by Landerer; Catholicism, by Kling; Cherubim, by Kurtz; Chiliasm (or Millennium), by Semisch; Christology, by Kling; Church (a remarkably complete and able essay), by Scheuehl, apparently modified or recast by Dr. Yeomans, of America; Clement and Clementines, by Uhlhorn; Cocceius, by Ebrard; and Communism (very admirable), by Hundeshagen.

The Heirs of the Farmstead; or, Life in the Worst Districts of Yorkshire Twenty Years Ago. A Tale; by the Author of "Orphan Upton," &c. London: J. Heaton and Son.

As containing pictures of a state of local society with which most readers will have no acquaintance, and

which soon will be lost altogether,—and as pervaded by a quiet power of representation, and by the right social view and moral feeling for such a representation,—this work is deserving of praise. But as a fiction—as a work of art—only very modified praise can be awarded to it. There are capital things in it,—and one wonders that, with so many such, it can be, as it is, rather wearisome on the whole. The dedication and preface unfortunately are likely to prevent many readers from going any farther; but it is really a very much better book than those special performances would lead one to suppose. We can strongly advise whoever would like to have a reliable picture of "life in the worst districts twenty years ago"—an inherently interesting and nationally important phase of life in our manufacturing regions—to give a perusal to this volume.

Cleanings.

The "Exclusives" at Washington now wear small steel hoops in the bottom of their pantaloons legs, to give them a genteel set over the boot.

Colonel Herbert Edwardes, the well-known hero of Mooltan, has undertaken the task of becoming the biographer of the late Sir Henry Lawrence.

The appeal of the London Missionary Society for missionaries to India has proved very successful. In the short space of two months no fewer than twelve have offered themselves for this noble enterprise.

Mr. Townsend's supporters at Greenwich propose raising a subscription to supersede his bankruptcy, and so enable him to continue in Parliament.

Statistical returns, the *Paris Union* asserts, have just revealed the fact that there are now in France 1,800,000 young females of a marriageable age, who are on the look out for husbands!

The Queen has sent the presents of the King of Siam for public exhibition at the South Kensington Museum, and Lord Palmerston has added to them the Siamese sword of state which was presented to himself.

There is hope of Yeh yet, if the following be true:—"An English lady was presented to him a short time since, when the old fellow was so astonished that he blushed the deepest crimson." Mr. Wingrove Cooke, the Chinese correspondent of the *Times*, accompanied him to Calcutta, and promises a complete portraiture of the great Mandarin. According to the *Hong Kong Register*, all the officers of the ship (the *Inflexible*) seem, after true English fashion, to have taken a fancy to their prisoner, and respect him for the cool, dignified manner in which he bears his fall and imprisonment, and he has created the impression among them that he is an able, intelligent man.

A Chinawoman's head-dress:—The Chinawoman's hair is gummed and built up into a structure rather resembling a huge flat iron, and the edifice is adorned with combs, and jewels, and flowers, arranged with a certain taste.—*Times' Correspondent.*

A statue of Dr. Isaac Watts is about to be placed in the public park just formed in the town of Southampton, where Watts was born. Mr. Guilleaume, the architect, who has laid out the park, has resolved upon paying for the statue by means of a penny subscription amongst the Sunday-school children throughout the kingdom, to whom Watts's Hymns for children are familiar. A considerable sum has already been promised Mr. Guilleaume. Mr. Lucas is the sculptor. Watts was born in a back street in Southampton, and composed his first hymns for a chapel in that town. There is at present no memorial of him in his native town.

The *Chicago Press*, U.S., publishes the following *verbatim* copy of a verdict rendered a few days since by a coroner's jury upon the body of a female child found upon the lake shore:—"State of Illinois, Cook county, ss.—At an Inquisition taken for the peopel of the State of Illinois and county of Cook this 26th day of May a. d. 1854, before Mr. Austin Kynes Coroner of said county of Cook upon the view of the body of Female Child, name unknown then and lying dead upon the oath of Twelve Good and Lawful men of the peopel of the Said State and County of Cook, and When and who the said came to his or she came to her death We the Jury do say We the Jurors do Agree The Body came to her Death by death unknown."

A correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* gives a marvellous instance of the memory of the lion. Three years ago he sold a young Natal lion to Batty, the menagerie proprietor; he fell in with the menagerie the other day, and entered to see if his old friend was still there. On going close to his cage and calling him by name, the lion gazed gravely and steadily for a second, as if to gather up memories of the past. On speaking again the voice was remembered; he came rubbing his head and mane against his *quondam* owner's hands, giving out that peculiarly mild whining growl indicative of pleasure and delight.

THE CHINESE IN AUSTRALIA.—A novel feature in the turbulence of the Chinese is, that they now wrangle among themselves as well as with the Europeans. At Castlemaine, some dispute about a claim nearly led to a pitched battle between upwards of 5,000 combatants. A contemporary gives this picturesque description of the encampment:—"The entire ranges were covered with armed Mongolian companies the whole of the day, and bore a faint resemblance to what imagination may fancy the highlands of Scotland were at the meeting of the clans in the days of Wallace and Bruce. Each company was commanded by an acknowledged leader, and as the two armies—for such we may call them—numbering, it is asserted, upwards of 5,000 souls, stood in martial array, scanning each other's movements from

opposite points of view, awaiting the signal of attack from below, or defiled across the various hills and passes, the whole scene presented a picturesque appearance of no ordinary kind." A fierce struggle was anticipated; but, after all, John Chinaman is too cowardly to fight when he can gain his object by other means. The "head men" of both parties settled the dispute by dint of Celestial diplomacy; and the combatants postponed breaking each other's heads for a little longer. But it is their abominably filthy habits—physical and moral—their filthy persons and practices—which render the Chinese most odious to the Europeans on the gold fields. It is simply impossible for a European of the slightest cultivation or sensibility—especially if he have a family—to live near the Chinese encampment, or any place the Chinese are accustomed to frequent.—*Melbourne Leader*.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—A NEW SYSTEM OF MEDICINE.—THE ANTISEPTIC TREATMENT.—Great results by harmless means. The most extraordinary cures have been made by this treatment in long-standing complaints. Cancer treated without pain, lupus, scrofula, consumption, throat and skin diseases, ulceration and irritation of the mucous membrane, indigestion with nervousness, diarrhoea, and other chronic disorders. See Treatise on Aescia Charcoal, post free, 1s. By W. Washington Evans, M.D., 12, Bernard-street, Primrose-hill, London.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—NEVER DESPAIR.—HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—After using these remedies for twelve weeks only, Mary Dixon, wife of Thomas Dixon, fishmonger, Regent-parade, Harrogate, was entirely cured of a bad leg of many years' standing, showing the wonderful effect of these medicines when properly used. She had been confined to her bed for five years, and was twice an inmate of two different hospitals in Leeds, but without obtaining the slightest relief, and was finally informed that she must lose her leg by amputation. Being induced to try Holloway's Ointment and Pills, and using them perseveringly, she averted that calamity, and is now perfectly recovered.—Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World, and at Professor Holloway's Establishment, 244, Strand, London.

BIRTHS.

KERRY.—March 4, at Howrah, Calcutta, the wife of the Rev. George Kerry, of the Baptist Missionary Society, of a daughter.
KINGSLEY.—April 12, at Eversley Rectory, Mrs. Charles Kingsley, of a son.
JACKSON.—April 14, at the Vale, Ramsgate, Mrs. M. Jackson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

TAYLOR-DYER.—Jan. 20, at the British Consulate, Ningpo, China, by the Rev. B. Gough, Mr. James Hudson Taylor, missionary, only son of Mr. James Taylor, Chertsey, Surrey, to Maria Jane, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Samuel Dyer, missionary at Penang.
TUNNICLIFFE-CLARK.—April 5, at Call-lane Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. A. Bowden, W. Henry, son of the Rev. Jabez Tunnicliffe, minister of the above-named place of worship, to Ellen Bruce, only child of Edwin Clark, Esq.
POPE-KING.—April 8, at St. Stephen's, Paddington, by the Very Rev. Dean Newman, late of Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, assisted by the Rev. Harvey Brooks, M.A., Samuel Pope, Esq., of Mornington-crescent, to Jessie Mary Ann Cox, daughter of J. King, Esq., of Green-point, Cape of Good Hope.
PARKER-SHARMAN.—April 11, at Brooke-street Chapel, Warwick, by the Rev. John Silbree, of Coventry, Mr. John Parker to Miss Elizabeth Sharmar, both of Leamington.
SHARDLOW-JOWETT.—April 13, at the Registrar Office, Leicester, Mr. Henry Shardlow, Belgrave-gate, to Susan, daughter of Mr. E. Jowett, Southampton-street.
KENDAL-TIMPSON.—April 14, by the father of the bride, at Union Chapel, Lewisham, Thomas Kendal, Esq., of Heath Bank, Cheshire, near Manchester, to Mary Rachel, third daughter of the Rev. Thomas Timpson, Lewisham.
CLARKE-ROSE.—April 16, at the New Chapel, Wood-street, Walthamstow, by the Rev. W. H. Hooper, Ebenezer Clarke, Esq., of Grove-road-villas, Walthamstow, to Mrs. Sarah Rose, widow of William Rose, Esq., late of Ilford, Essex.
BARKER-FERGUSON.—April 19, at 68, West Regent-street, Glasgow, by the Rev. S. T. Porter, Mr. D. C. Barker, to Annie, youngest daughter of the late Archibald Ferguson, surgeon, R.N.

DEATHS.

STRACHEY.—April 11, at Sutton-court, Somersetshire, Sir Henry Strachey, Bart., aged eighty-six years.
COCKBURN.—April 12, at Downton, Herefordshire, Sir W. S. R. Cockburn, Bart., N.S., aged sixty-one years.
OBERY.—April 13, at Kensington, the Rev. John Muson Obery, M.A., late of Woodford, Essex.
COBDEN.—At Dunford, Midhurst, Frederic W. Cobden, Esq., aged fifty-eight years. The affliction of his brother, and a desire to be with him during those sufferings which have now been terminated by death, was, it is believed, one of the reasons for which Mr. Cobden has lately withdrawn from public life.
MASON.—April 15, Eccles, second son of Mr. Henry Mason, of the Grove, Sydenham, solicitor, aged six months.
EDDIS.—April 16, at Thornhill-square, Islington, Mrs. Mary Craig Eddis, aged seventy-three years.
DUNFERMLINE.—April 17, at his seat, Colinton House, near Edinburgh, Lord Dunfermline (Speaker Abercromby) aged eighty-two years.
HANDYSIDE.—April 18, at his brother-in-law's seat, Kennet House, Clackmannanshire, Lord Handyside, one of the judges of the Court of Session.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The Stock Market has been dull during the week, but on Monday there were symptoms of an advance. The large arrivals of specie, and the increasing abundance of money, strengthened the favourable tendency, but the real cause of the improvement rested with private investments, which were more numerous than for some time past. Mr. Disraeli's financial statement is looked upon favourably, and was followed by an advance which reached $\frac{1}{4}$, and subsequently receded to $\frac{1}{8}$ per cent. The new Indian Loan has been firm, closing at 99 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 100. In the discount market and at the Bank the demand for money continues quiet. The current rates for first-class bills "out of doors" are $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

In the Foreign Stocks business is moderately active, and prices do not exhibit much alteration.

Day by day the depression in the market for British Railway Stocks increases. The fall from the highest point amounts to something like fifteen per

cent in York and North Midland Stock, eight to nine per cent. in Berwick, eleven to twelve per cent. in Caledonian, nearly ten per cent. in Midland, &c. The reckless competition now going on between some of the leading companies, tends strongly to inspire distrust of all railway management; and the continued decline in the traffic would appear to justify very gloomy anticipations respecting the next dividends of most of the principal undertakings. Speculators, who have been induced by the serious decline in the traffic to operate for the fall, have today evinced a disposition to buy back.

Mines, Banks, and Miscellaneous Shares have been quite neglected, and prices exhibit not the slightest alteration from previous quotations.

The imports of the precious metals during the week amounted to 460,000*l.*; the shipments were only 90,000*l.*

The Lords Justices have decided that the Northumberland District Bank, the liabilities of which are given at two millions and a quarter, must be wound up compulsorily—that is, in bankruptcy, and not voluntarily, as many of the shareholders desired.

An association of shareholders of the Western Bank of Scotland has been formed for the purpose of obtaining a full and complete investigation into the management of that concern, and a deputation has had an interview with the liquidators, when arrangements were made for the immediate prosecution of the inquiry.

It has been announced that the bills of Messrs. Robert Browne and Co., chiefly in the Australian trade, have been returned. The embarrassments of the house, however, have been known for some time; the firm placed their books in the hands of Messrs. Quilter, Ball, and Co., the accountants, more than a month ago.

The business of the port of London during the past week was not quite so active. 182 vessels were reported at the Custom House as having arrived from foreign ports; there were four from Ireland, and 100 colliers. The entries outwards were 106, and those cleared amounted to 94, besides 13 in ballast. The departures for the Australian colonies were four vessels, viz., one to Port Philip, of 819 tons; one to Sydney, of 587 tons; one to Adelaide, of 506 tons; and one to Auckland, New Zealand, of 345 tons; making a total of 2,257 tons.

A judgment delivered on Friday in the Bankruptcy Court, in the case of a person named White, who is described as a warehouseman, of Aldermanbury, deserves notice. The bankrupt had lent himself to the manufacture of "accommodation bills" upon a liberal scale, in connexion with Messrs. Macdonald and Co., of Glasgow. The result of his "trading" is debts to the amount of 9,150*l.*, and assets sufficient to yield one shilling in the pound. Although no trade creditor came forward to oppose, Mr. Commissioner Fane expressed a strong feeling that the Court has a duty to perform in checking these irregular developments. The system of drawing and accepting accommodation bills is one, he observed, which the Court ought steadily to denounce. "A bill drawn and accepted," he remarked, "implies a commercial transaction for value, and if it is drawn and accepted for accommodation, it is a cheat." The bankrupt's certificate was postponed for three years; protection was refused; and it was intimated that, in the event of his being thrown into prison, the Court will not release him until six months shall have expired.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Cent. Consols	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
Consols for Account	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per Cent. Red.	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$
New 3 per Cent.						
Annuitants	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Stock	222	223	220 $\frac{1}{2}$	220	220	220
Bank Stock	222	222	222	222	222	222
Exchange-bills	37 pm	36 pm	34 pm	33 pm	33 pm	33 pm
India Bonds	20 pm	21 pm	21 pm	21 pm	21 pm	21 pm
Long Annuitants	—	18	—	—	—	—

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND
(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, c. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, April 14, 1858.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued	£31,962,650
Government Debt	£11,015,100
Other Securities	3,459,900
Gold Bullion	17,487,650
Silver Bullion	—

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000
Reserve	3,158,306
Public Deposits	2,989,489
Other Deposits	16,915,987
Seven Day and other	836,310
Bills	—
	£38,453,092
	£38,453,092

April 15, 1858. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, April 16, 1858.

WILD, W., Counter-street, Southwark, carman, April 20, June 7.
DICKINSON, J. G., Hastings, draper, April 28, June 2.
PATCH, J., Northampton, grocer, April 27, May 20.
BARNES, J. T., Stratford, Essex, builder, April 30, May 29.
STEWART, C. H., Tothill-street, Westminster, corn merchant, April 30, May 29.
TAYLOR, T., Moddershall-mill, near Stone, Staffordshire, flint grinder, April 29, May 20.
BUTLER, S., BAKER, C. and C. E., Birmingham, wire drawers, April 26, May 17.
SULLIVAN, J., Bristol, victualler, April 27, May 25.
PYBUS, C., Catterick, Yorkshire, spirit merchant, April 30, May 28.

WILLIAMS, C., Cardiff, ship smith, April 26, May 25.
ROHLING, A., and ESSER, G. A. G., Liverpool, merchants, May 3 and 31.
YOXALL, W., Ashton-under-Lime, saddler, May 4, June 1.
WORSLEY, T., Baxenden, Lancashire, cotton-spinner, April 30, May 21.

Tuesday, April 20, 1858.

BANKRUPT.
In the matter of the Sunk Vessels Recovery Company the Commissioner has appointed May 5 for the hearing, at the Liverpool District Court.
COHEN, A. M., Commercial-place, City-road, paper stainer, April 29, May 27.
MCKINNEL, C., Great St. Helen's, merchant, April 29, May 28.
POWELL, C., Leather-lane, Holborn, cheesemonger, May 1 and 28.
SENIOR, W. T., Horbury-bridge, Yorkshire, fellmonger, May 4, June 1.
WAINWRIGHT, T., Dunham-o'th-Hill, Cheshire, cattle salesman, May 7 and 27.
PIERCE, J., Ironmonger-lane, builder, April 30, May 28.
TIDEY, D., Buckland-crescent, St. John's Wood, builder, May 4 and 28.
STARKEY, B., Sheepbridge, Yorkshire, woollen cord manufacturer, May 6 and 28.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, April 19.

There was little wheat offering this morning from the neighbouring counties, but the arrivals of flour by railway were large; and this, combined with the very favourable change in the weather, enabled buyers to supply themselves at fully 2s per quarter under last Monday's prices, and at this reduction the trade was heavy. Foreign wheat was offered 1s to 2s cheaper, but the sales were to a very limited extent. Country flour 2s per sack, and American 1s per barrel lower, with little doing. Barley fully as dear. Beans rather dearer. Peas unaltered. The supply of oats was moderate, and good corn realised fully last Monday's prices. Linseed and cakes slow sale. The clover-seed season may be considered over.

BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
	s. d.		s. d.
Wheat		Wheat	
Essex and Kent, Red 42 to 44	46 48	Dantzic	49 to 52
Ditto White	46 48	Konigsberg, Red	43 46
Lincoln, Norfolk, and	—	Pomeranian, (Red)	44 46
Yorkshire Red	—	Rostock	44 46
Sooty	38 44	Danish and Holstein	43 44
Rye	30 32	East Friesland	40 42
Barley, malting	23 42	Petersburg	38 42
Distilling	28 30	Riga and Archangel	—
Malt (pale)	66 68	Polish Odessa	38 40
Beans, masagan	—	Marianopol	40 42
Ticks	—	Taganrog	—
Harrow	—	Egyptian	30 34
Pigeon	—	American (U.S.)	42 46
Peas, White	38 40	Barley, Pomeranian	30 34
Grey	40 42	Konigsberg	—
Maple	40 42	Danish	37 40
Boilers	40 42	East Friesland	32 34
Tares (English new)	48 50	Egyptian	30 32
Foreign	46 60	Odessa	32 34
Oats (English new)	23 26	Beans	—
Flour, town made, per	—	Horse	32 34
Sack of 280 lbs	39 40	Pigeon	36 38
Linseed, English	—	Egyptian	32 33
Baltic	48 50	Peas, White	34 40
Black Sea	50 52	Oats	—
Hempseed	42 44	Dutch	22 27
Canaryseed	78 82	Jahde	21 27
Cloverseed, per cwt. of	—	Danish	21 25
112 lbs. English	56 60	Danish, Yellow feed	21 26
German	48 60	Swedish	24 26
French	42 48	Petersburg	21 25
American	40 44	Flour, per bar. of 160 lbs.	—
Linseed Cakes, 13 10s to 14 0s	—	New York	30 34
Rape Cakes, 6 10s to 7 0s per ton	—	Spanish, per sack	—
Rapeseed, 34 0s to 35 0s per last	—	Carawayseed, per cwt.	32 40

SEEDS, Monday, April 19.—Cloverseed moves off steadily, at fully last week's currency. Trefoil is held for fully late rates. Linseed and rapeseed are in moderate request, and the former is fully 1s per quarter dearer. In other seeds nothing of importance has taken place. A fair business has been transacted in cakes, at reduced rates.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread, in the metropolis, are from 5d to 6d; household ditto, 4d to 6d.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, April 19.

We were very scantily supplied with foreign stock to-day, and its general quality was inferior. Sales were with difficulty effected, at low currencies. For the time of year, the arrivals of home-fed beasts fresh up this morning were extensive, and in excellent condition. Owing to the thin attendance of both town and country butchers, and the heaviness in the demand in the dead markets, the beef trade ruled heavy in the extreme, at a decline in the quotations realised on Monday last of 4d per 8lbs, the top figure being only 4s, and a large portion of the supply was unsold. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire we received 2,800 Scots and shorthorns; from other parts of England, 300 of various breeds; from Scotland, 340 Scots, and from Ireland, 250 oxen, &c. There was by far the largest show of sheep on any market-day during the whole of the year, and the quality of most breeds was good. As regards the mutton trade, we may observe that it was unusually depressed, and prices, compared with this day se'nlight, fell from 2d to 4d per 8lbs. A few very superior Downs sold at 5s; but the general top figure for mutton in the wool did not exceed 4s 10d per 8lbs; out of the wool, the extreme price was 4s 4d per 8lbs. Lambs were in fair average supply, and moderate request, at 5s 8d to 6s 8d per 8lbs, being 4d per 8lbs lower than on Monday last. From the Isle of Wight 340 came to hand. There was a slow inquiry for calves, the show of which was only moderate, at Thursday's decline in value of 4d to 6d per 8lbs. In pigs so little was doing, that the quotations were almost nominal.

Per 8lbs, to sink the Offal.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts	2 10 to 3 0	Fr. coarse woolled	3 10 to 4 4	
Second quality	3 2 to 3 4	Prime Southdown	4 6 to 4 10	
Prime large oxen	3 6 to 3 8	Lge. coarse calves	4 0 to 4 6	
Prime Scots, &c.	3 10 to 4 0	Prime small	4 8 to 5 2	
Coarse inf. sheep	3 2 to 3 4	Large hogs	3 8 to 4 0	
Second quality	3 6 to 3 8	Neat sm. porkers	4 2 to 4 4	

Lambs 5s 8d to 6s 8d.

Suckling calves, 18s. to 22s.; Quarter-old store pigs, 18s. to 22s. each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, April 19.

The supplies of both town and country killed meat on offer here to-day being considerably on the increase compared with Monday last, the trade generally was in a depressed state, at further reduced rates.

Per 8lbs by the carcass.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef	2 5 to 3 0	Inf. mutton	2 10 to 3 2	
Middling ditto	3 2 to 3 4	Middling ditto	3 4 to 3 6	
Prime large do.	3 4 to 3 6	Prime ditto	3 8 to 4 0	
Do. small do.	3 6 to 3 8	Veal	3 8 to 4 0	
Large pork	2 10 to 3 6	Small pork	3 8 to 4 4	

Lambs, 5s 0d to 6s 0d.

PROVISIONS, Monday, April 19.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 11 firkins butter, and 2,645 hales bacon; and from foreign ports 12,262 casks butter, and 273 hales 423 boxes bacon. Old Irish butter moves off very slowly, at low and irregular prices. A few new fourth Corks arrived sold at

50s.—they are offered at 3s to 4s less for delivery this week. New foreign has declined 4s to 5s per cwt. The bacon market has rapidly advanced, and at the close of the week prices were 4s to 5s per cwt dearer than this day se'night. Lard has also advanced 2s to 3s per cwt.

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, April 19.—Full average supplies of potatoes have come to hand since Monday last, coastwise and by railway. The imports from the Continent have been again extensive, viz.: 310 tons from Dunkirk, 380 tons from Rouen, 35 tons from Calais, 90 tons from Tarnen, 80 tons from Bruges, 160 tons from Ghent, 90 tons from Louvain, and 650 tons from Antwerp. The demand is inactive at our quotations: York Regents, 140s to 180s; Kent and Essex do., 80s to 100s; Scotch, 120s to 160s; Do. Cups, 90s to 100s; Middlings, 60s to 90s; Lincolns, 120s to 160s; Foreign 60s to 100s per ton.

HOPS, Monday, April 19.—During the past week we have experienced a steady inquiry for nearly every description of hops; and fine samples have, from their scarcity, realised full prices. Yearlings and 1855's continue in fair request. The market remained firm at the following quotations:—Mid and East Kents, 70s to 90s; Weald of Kent, 54s to 60s; Sussex, 50s to 54s; Yearlings, &c., 21s to 35s.

WOOL, Monday, April 19.—During the past week the transactions in all kinds of English wools have been unusually limited. Even the finest qualities have ruled dull in the extreme, and some forced sales have been effected on rather easier terms. From the present appearance of the market, there is every prospect of further reduced rates.

TALLOW, Monday, April 19.—Our market is firm as to price, but the business doing in it is very moderate. To-day, P.Y.C., on the spot, is quoted at 55s 6d; and for the three last months, 52s 6d per cwt.

Advertisements.

OKEY'S PARIS.—Parisians—People—Carnival—St. Cloud—Baden, &c. (without passport or seal). Illustrated by some Eighty Burlesque and Diorama Sketches. Evenings (except Saturday), at Eight; Tuesdays and Saturdays, at Three. Seats, 1s.; Chairs, 2s.
STRAIT ROOM, 301, near Exeter Hall.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE, ANATOMY, and the WONDERS OF NATURE, 47, Berners-street, Oxford-street, open daily, for gentlemen only, from 10 till 10. Admission One Shilling.—Know Thyself! A visit to this Museum will convey to the mind a more accurate knowledge of the human body, and the mysteries of creation, than years of reading. The Anatomical Specimens and Models are superbly executed, and comprise what cannot be seen anywhere else in the world, illustrating every Part of the Human Body; the Circulation of the Blood; the Brain and Nervous System; the Reproduction of the Species; the Pathology of Diseases, &c. It also contains Joined Twins, a Child terminating like a Fish, two Human Skins, male and female, and numbers of natural wonders.—"This extraordinary collection contains a great variety of natural wonders, as well as anatomical curiosities, and, altogether, is undoubtedly the most complete collection of the kind ever seen, either here or on the Continent."—News of the World. Lectures, Morning and Evening, by Dr. W. B. MARSTON, whose medical work on Nervous Debility, &c., will be presented, with an explanatory catalogue, gratis to every visitor.

WHY GIVE MORE!—EXCELLENT TEAS, Black, Green, and Mixed, are now on Sale, for Family Use, at 2s. 6d. per lb., at NEWSOM and Co.'s Original Tea Warehouse, 50, Borough. Established A.D. 1745.

WHEN YOU ASK FOR GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH, SEE THAT YOU GET IT. as inferior kinds are often substituted.

RIMMEL'S CHRISTMAS SHOW.—Ornaments for Christmas Trees of an entirely novel description. Flowers containing Perfume, Birds' Nests, &c., from 3d. to 10s. 6d.; the new style of French-mounted Toilet Bottles, Fancy Perfume Boxes and Baskets, &c., from 6d. to 5s. 6s.; Perfumed Almanacks, 6d., by post for seven stamps. Wholesale and retail, at Rimmel's, 90, Strand; and Crystal Palace.

PURE BRANDY, 16s. per GALLON. Pale or Brown BAUDOUIN, of exquisite flavour and great purity, identical indeed in every respect with those choice productions of the Cognac District, which are now difficult to procure at any price, 85s. per dozen, French bottles and case included; or 10s. per gallon.
HENRY BRETT and Co., Old Fumival's Distillery, Holborn.

**UNSOPHISTICATED GIN, of the true Juniper flavour, and precisely as it runs from the Still, without the addition of sugar, or any ingredient whatever. Imperial gallon, 18s.; or in one-dozen cases, 20s. each, bottles and case included. Price Currents (free) by post.
HENRY BRETT and Co., Old Fumival's Distillery, Holborn.**

WINE NO LONGER AN EXPENSIVE LUXURY.

Our very superior SOUTH AFRICAN WINES, of which we hold an extensive stock, in brilliant condition, are placed within the reach of all classes, at 20s. PER DOZEN.

They are entirely free from acidity and brandy, full of aroma, and have all the distinctive characteristics of PORT, SHERRY, MADEIRA, &c. Being imported from the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, they are only charged half the usual duty. Pint Samples of each sent for 24 Stamps. Country orders to contain a remittance or reference. Delivered free to any London Railway Terminus. Terms, cash, or approved reference prior to delivery.—WELLER and HUGHES, Wholesale Wine and Spirit Importers, 37, Crutched-friars, Mark-lane, E.C.

DENMAN'S WINES from SOUTH AFRICA.—PORT, SHERRY, &c.

TWENTY SHILLINGS PER DOZEN.

These Wines, the produce of a British colony which has escaped the vine disease (the vintage occurring in February may account for the same), are, in consequence, wholesome, and are warranted free from acidity and brandy, and are admitted by her Majesty's Customs at half duty, hence the low price.

A Pint Sample Bottle of each for Twenty-four Stamps, bottles included. Packages allowed for when returned.

EXCELSIOR BRANDY.

Pale or Brown, 15s. per gallon, or 30s. per dozen.

TERMS—CASH.

Country Orders must contain a remittance. Cheques to be crossed "Bank of London."

J. L. DENMAN, Wine and Spirit Importer, 65, Fenchurch-street, London. Counting-house entrance first door on the left up Railway-place.

"Mr. J. L. Denman now supplies these Wines at 20s. per dozen, and as it is our rule not to speak in commendation of articles of which we are ignorant, it gives us much pleasure occasionally to recommend these Wines to our readers."—Vide "John Bull," Jan. 17, 1857.

"We have taken the trouble to try Mr. Denman's Wines, and have also submitted them to several of the clergy, and the opinion formed is that they are worthy of being patronised."—Clerical Journal, Oct. 22, 1857.

TO MINISTERS.—A SUIT of WOODED BLACK CLOTH, 4s. 4s., Dress or Frock Coat, Cassock or other Vest. Quality, fit, and workmanship guaranteed. Instructions for self-measurement and Patterns sent post-free. Personal attendance within five miles.

S. BATTAM, Tailor, 160, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD, (Four doors South of Shoobred and Co.'s).

PARASOLS.—The greatest Novelty in Parasols is the "TARTAN," price 20s., to be had only of the Patentees, W. and J. SANGSTER, Manufacturers to her Majesty and H.R.H. the Princess Royal.

PARASOLS made of IRISH LACE, also in LYONS SILKS of the most magnificent patterns.

W. and J. SANGSTER, 140, Regent-street; 94, Fleet-street; 75, Cheapside; and 10, Royal Exchange.

N.B. Parasols for general use from 7s. 6d. each.

WILLIAM CARTER, IMPORTER, EXPORTER, AND STAY BODICE MANUFACTURER,

informs the Public that his STOCK is NOW COMPLETE for the present SEASON.

Ladies should visit this Wholesale and Retail STAY BODICE and PETTICOAT WAREHOUSE for CHEAP and FASHIONABLE GOODS.

Self-lacing Patent Front-fastening Elastic Stays and Bodices .. 4s. 11d. to 10s. 6d.

Family and Nursing Stays (self adjusting) .. 9s. 6d. to 21s. 0d.

Paris Wove Stays (all sizes) .. 5s. 11d. to 15s. 0d.

Address, WILLIAM CARTER, No. 22, Ludgate-street (two doors from St. Paul's), E.C. Wholesale Lists free.

LADIES' VIGNONIA CRINOLINE, WATCH-SPRING JUPON MUSLIN, and STEEL PETTICOAT WAREHOUSE.

Parisian Eugenie Hoop Skeleton Skirts .. 4s. 6d. to 25s. 0d.

Full-sized Vignonia Crinoline Petticoats .. 7s. 6d. to 21s. 0d.

French Muslin Watch-Spring Jupons .. 6s. 9d. to 16s. 6d.

Ladies' Warm Travelling Linsey Woolsey, and Quilted Australian Wool Petticoats.

CARTER'S PATENT SAFETY POCKET should be possessed by every lady travelling by rail, or visiting places of public amusement.

Address, WILLIAM CARTER, No. 22, Ludgate-street (two doors from St. Paul's), E.C. Engravings of the above, free.

BRUSSELS CARPETS.—The largest, cheapest, and best assorted Stock in the Kingdom is at HAMPTON and RUSSELL'S, Nos. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, LEICESTER-SQUARE, and Nos. 1 and 2, LEICESTER-PLACE. Parties

furnishing are respectfully solicited, previous to making their purchases, to inspect this stock, which comprises several thousand pieces in the newest and choicest designs, at prices beyond competition. Rich tapestry Brussels, 2s. 4d. per yard; magnificent velvet pile ditto, 3s. 3d.; best five-framed Brussels, 8s. 6d. per yard, usually sold at 4s. 6d. An immense variety of hearth-rugs, unsurpassed for beauty of pattern and splendour of colouring, from 4s. 4d. to two guineas each.

BENSON'S WATCHES.

"Excellence of design and perfection of workmanship."—Morning Chronicle.

"The qualities of his manufacture stand second to none."—Morning Advertiser.

"All that can be desired in finish, taste, and design."—Globe.

"The Watches here exhibited surpass those of any other English manufacturer."—Observer.

Those who cannot personally inspect this extensive and costly stock, should send two stamps for "BENSON'S ILLUSTRATED PAMPHLET," containing important information requisite in the purchase of a Watch, and from which they can select with the greatest certainty the one adapted to their use. Silver Watches, from 2 to 50 Guineas—Gold Watches, from 3l. 15s. to 100 Guineas. Every Watch warranted, and sent post paid to any part of England, Scotland, Ireland, or Wales, upon receipt of a remittance. MERCHANTS, SHIPPERS, and WATCH CLUBS SUPPLIED. —WATCHES EXCHANGED OR REPAIRED.

MANUFACTORY, 33 & 34, LUDGATE-HILL, LONDON, E.C. Established 1749.

WILLIAM S. BURTON'S General Furnishing IRONMONGERY CATALOGUE may be had gratis, and free by post. It contains upwards of 400 Illustrations of his illimitable Stock of Electro and Sheffield Plate, Nickel Silver and Britannia Metal goods, Stoves, Fenders, Marble Mantelpieces, Kitchen Ranges, Lamps, Gasaliers, Tea Urns and Kettles, Clocks, Table Cutlery, Baths and Toilet Ware, Turnery, Iron and Brass Bedsteads, Bedding, Bed Hangings, &c. &c., with Lists of Prices and Plans of the Sixteen large Show Rooms, at 39, Oxford-street, W.; 1, 1A, 2, and 3, Newman-street; and 4, 5, and 6, Perry's-place, London.

FURNITURE.—ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE.—Enlarged and Revised Edition, containing De-

signs of Furniture suited to the most elaborate or economical style of Furnishing, with estimates showing the necessary outlay for fitting up large or small Houses in a comfortable and substantial manner. The drawings in this work are priced and lucidly described in the appendix, so that persons at a distance wishing to purchase one or more articles only, may, by stating the numbers selected in the Catalogue, avoid the expense and inconvenience of a journey to London, and at the same time secure all the advantages which the metropolis only can afford (to be had gratis), of HOWITT and CO., General House Furnishers, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, High Holborn.

HOWITT and CO., House Furnishers, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, High Holborn.

CABINET FURNITURE of first-class work-

manship, and thoroughly seasoned materials, at unprecedentedly low prices. Nos. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, LEICESTER-SQUARE, and 1 and 2, LEICESTER-PLACE.

HAMPTON and RUSSELL beg to invite the attention of the Nobility, Gentry, and Public generally, to their superior manufactured Stock of Cabinet Furniture, which exceeds in extent, variety, and cheapness, that of any Establishment in the Kingdom; and respectfully offer a gratuitous inspection of their new and spacious Show Rooms, which are replete with every requisite for appropriately furnishing any class of House. Parties intending to furnish, either wholly or in part, may depend upon effecting a considerable saving by selecting from the above Stock. Every Article warranted.

N.B.—Bedding of every description, of their own manufacture, Cheaper than any House in the Trade.

1858.—CLERGYMEN about to FURNISH

should apply for a copy of a new ILLUSTRATED

ESTIMATE BOOK, which will be published by Messrs.

COBBETT and Co. (gratis and post free) the first week in

April. From the numerous piracies of their former work,

Messrs. Cobbett have found it imperative to prepare an en-

tirely new Catalogue, which will contain revised estimates for

Furnishing with elegance and economy, at fixed prices, on a

plan altogether peculiar to their Establishment, illustrated by

287 elegant and useful Designs of Furniture adapted for

Drawing, Dining, and Bed-rooms, Offices, Libraries, Halls, &c.,

and taken from Goods actually in Stock. References of the

highest character to numerous Clergymen in various parts of

the kingdom. All ORDERS DELIVERED CARRIAGE FREE, REGARD-

LESS OF DISTANCE.—COBBETT and CO., Manufacturers and

General House Furnishers, Deptford-bridge, London (ten

minutes by rail from London-bridge).

SARL'S ARGENTINE SILVER PLATE.

SARL and SONS, 17 and 18, Cornhill, invite attention to their very splendid STOCK of ARGENTINE SILVER, which continues to be the best substitute for solid silver, and has stood the test of sixteen years' trial. A large show-room in their new building is expressly fitted up for the display of articles manufactured in this metal. The stock comprises dinner, tea, and breakfast services, with every article for the table and sideboard. The Argentine silver spoons and forks are especially recommended for appearance, economy, and durability.

		Fiddle	Double	King's
		Pattern	Thread	Pattern
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
12 Table Forks	best quality	2 16 0	4 0 0	4 4 0
12 Table Spoons	"	2 16 0	4 0 0	4 4 0
12 Dessert Forks	"	2 0 0	3 0 0	3 10 0
12 Dessert Spoons	"	2 0 0	3 0 0	3 10 0
12 Tea Spoons	"	1 7 0	1 15 0	2 0 0
4 Sauce Ladles	"	0 18 0	1 10 0	1 10 0
2 Gravy Spoons	"	0 18 0	1 8 0	1 10 0
4 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls	"	0 8 0	0 18 0	0 15 0
Mustard Spoons, ditto, each	"	0 2 0	0 4 0	0 0 0
Sugar Tongs	"	0 5 0	0 8 0	0 9 0
Fish Knives	"	0 18 0	1 2 0	1 4 0
Butter Knives	"	0 5 0	0 8 0	0 9 0
Soup Ladles	"	0 18 0	1 3 0	1 4 0
Sugar Sifters, pierced	"	0 7 6	0 10 6	0 13 6
6 Egg Spoons, gilt	"	0 16 0	1 0 0	1 4 0
Moist-sugar Spoons, each	"	0 3 0	0 3 6	0 4 6

Discount for cash, £10 per cent. .. 1 13 6 2 8 6 2 13 6

Complete Service .. 15 1 6 21 8 6 24 4 6

These services may be fitted complete in mahogany case at a small additional charge. Any article can be had separately at the same price. One set of corner dishes and covers, 11l. 11s.; one set of dish covers—viz., one 20-inch, one 18-inch, and two 14-inch—four covers in all, 18l. 13s.; full size tea and coffee service, 11l. 11s.; cruet frames, 85s.; salvers, 13s., &c. An enlarged and costly book of engravings, with the prices attached, is just published, and may be obtained on application or by letter. Estimates of services of plate given.—Sarl and Sons (the new building), 17 and 18, Cornhill, opposite the Royal Exchange.

WATCHES.—SARL and SONS, WATCH

and CLOCK MANUFACTURERS, Nos. 17 and 18,

CORNHILL, invite attention to their new and splendid

Stock of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES of their own Manu-

facture, each Warranted, and Twelve Months' Trial allowed.

LONDON MADE PATENT LEVER WATCHES.

SILVER CASES.
Patent Lever Watches, in double-backed, plain, or engine-turned cases, the movements with the latest improvements, i.e., the detached escapement, jewelled, hard enamelled dial, hand to mark the seconds, and maintaining power to continue going while winding up .. 4 4 0

Ditto, jewelled in four holes, and capped .. 5 5 0

GOLD CASES.
Patent Lever Watches, in engine-turned or hand-

somely engraved double-backed gold cases, with richly ornamented gold dials and figures, the movements with the improvements, i.e., detached escapement, jewelled in four holes, and maintaining power .. 11 11 0

Ditto, extra improvements, and jewelled in four holes .. 14 14 0

HORIZONTAL FLAT WATCHES, OF HIGHLY FINISHED CONSTRUCTION.

SILVER CASES.
Horizontal Silver Watches, very flat, jewelled in

four holes, engine-turned cases, and enamel dials .. 2 15 0

Ditto, ditto, highly finished, silver dials .. 3 10 0

GOLD CASES.
Horizontal Gold Watches, with highly finished

movements, jewelled in four holes, double backed, engine-turned cases, enamel dials .. 6

Ditto, with beautifully engraved cases, and chased gold dials .. 7 10 0

A Selection can be made from upwards of 1,000 Watches.

Books containing Drawings and Prices may be had on application.

Watches will be forwarded to every part of the Kingdom, free of expense, in answer to orders containing a remittance.

SARL and SONS, WATCH and CLOCK Manufacturers (the new building), 17 and 18, Cornhill, London.

SILVER PLATE.—SARL and SONS, 17

and 18, Cornhill.—A spacious and magnificent gallery is

fitted up in Sarl and Sons' new building, for the display of

SILVER PLATE. The entire stock is just finished, and com-

prises every article requisite for the table or sideboard. The

patterns are from the most recent designs.

FIDDLE PATTERN SPOONS AND FORKS.

	oz.	s. d.	£ s. d.
12 Table Spoons	30	7 4	11 0 0
12 Dessert ditto	20	7 4	7 6 8
12 Table Forks	30	7 4	11 0 0
12 Dessert ditto	20	7 4	7 6 8
2 Gravy Spoons	10	7 4	3 13 4
1 Soup Ladle	10	7 4	3 13 4
4 Sauce Ladles	10	7 10	3 18 4
4 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls	10	7 10	3 18 4
1 Fish Slice	10	7 10	3 18 4
12 Tea Spoons	10	7 10	3 18 4
1 Pair Sugar Tongs	10	7 10	3 18 4
1 Moist-sugar Spoon	10	7 10	3 18 4
1 Sugar Sifter	10	7 10	3 18 4
1 Butter Knife, silver handle	10	7 10	3 18 4

57 16 2

COTTAGE PATTERN SILVER TEA AND COFFEE SERVICE.

	oz.	s. d.	£ s. d.
Tea Pot	24	10 0	11 10 0
Sugar Basin	11	11 0	6 1 0
Milk Ewer	8	11 0	4 8 0
Coffee Pot	28	10 0	14 0 0

35 19 0

KING'S PATTERN SPOONS AND FORKS.

	oz.	s. d.	£ s. d.
12 Table Spoons	40	7 6	15 0 0
12 Dessert ditto	25	7 6	9 7 6
12 Table Forks	40	7 6	15 0 0
12 Dessert ditto	25	7 6	9 7 6
2 Gravy Spoons	11	7 6	4 2 6
1 Soup Ladle	11	7 6	4 2 6
4 Sauce Ladles	11	8 0	4 8 0
4 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls	11	8 0	4 8 0
1 Fish Slice	11	8 0	4 8 0
12 Tea Spoons	14	8 0	5 12 0
1 Pair Sugar Tongs	14	8 0	5 12 0
1 Moist-sugar Spoon	14	8 0	5 12 0
1 Sugar Sifter	14	8 0	5 12 0
1 Butter Knife, silver handle	14	8 0	5 12 0

76 5 0

QUEEN'S PATTERN SILVER TEA AND COFFEE SERVICE, RICHLY CHARGED.

	oz.	s. d.	£ s. d.
Tea Pot	24	10 6	12 12 0
Sugar Basin	12	11 6	6 18 0
Cream Ewer	8	11 6	4 12 0
Coffee Pot	28	10 6	14 14 0

38 16 0

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NORTON'S PILLS act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation; safe under any circumstances; and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use.

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CAUTION!—Be sure to ask for "Norton's Pills," and do not be persuaded to purchase the various imitations.

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All sufferers from this complaint (especially those who have been deceived by the pretensions of empirics who have advertised their "so-called" remedies) are earnestly invited to communicate with Dr. Thomson, as he can confidently guarantee them relief in every case. His remedy has been extensively used for many years past with perfect success, and is now made known as a public duty, through the medium of the press. In every case of single or double Rupture in either sex, however bad or long standing, it is perfectly applicable, effecting a radical cure in a short time, without confinement or inconvenience, and it cannot fail to be appreciated as a blessing to those who have been for years, perhaps, obliged to wear galling trusses, or other modes of support. Patients in any part of the Kingdom can have the remedy sent to them, post free (packed so that no one can know the contents), with full and simple instructions for use, on receipt of 10s. in postage stamps or by post office order, payable at the General Post Office to Dr. Ralph Thomson, 1A, Arlington-street, Hampstead-road, London. Sufferers are informed that this remedy can be procured in NO OTHER WAY than by sending direct to Dr. Thomson for it; thus they are effectually protected against the possibility of imposition.

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The LADIES are respectfully informed that this STARCH is EXCLUSIVELY USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY, and HER MAJESTY'S LAUNDRESSES say, that although she has tried Wheatens, Rice, and other Powder Starches, she has found none of them equal to the GLENFIELD, which is THE FINEST STARCH SHE EVER USED.
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PERFECT FREEDOM FROM COUGH IN TEN MINUTES AFTER USE, AND INSTANT RELIEF AND A RAPID CURE OF ASTHMA AND CONSUMPTION, and all Disorders of the BREATH and LUNGS, is insured by

DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.

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I, Thomas Carter, Egremont, Cheshire, had an asthmatic cough for fourteen years; nothing ever gave me relief until I commenced taking Dr. Locock's Pulmonic Wafers, three boxes of which have entirely cured me.

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"A lady a few months ago told us she should never fear a consumptive cough again as long as she could get a box of Dr. Locock's Wafers, although the greater part of her family had died of consumption."

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They have a pleasant taste.
As to SINGERS and PUBLIC SPEAKERS these Wafers are invaluable, as by their action on the throat and lungs they remove all hoarseness in a few hours, and wonderfully increase the power and flexibility of the voice.

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The discoveries in Medical Science enabled Dr. Zadd Jebb to combine the above vegetable drugs in such a manner that the properties of one do not destroy those of the other, and this discovery is only known to the executors of Dr. Zadd Jebb.

These pills are admitted by medical men to be the safest remedy for Torpid Liver, Biliousness, Skin Diseases, Itches, Pimples, Headache, Nervousness, Loss of Appetite, Debility, Gravel, Stone, Rheumatism, Gout, Kidney Disease, Pains in the Limbs, and for Poor Health. They purify the blood, strengthen the nerves, and revive the system by reorganising the vital tissue. The public must protect themselves by asking for Zadd Jebb's Pills, as they are the only pills answering to this advertisement. If not obtainable, boxes are sent free by post on receipt of stamps, addressed to Z. JEBB, 10, Hungerford-street, London, price 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s.

London Agents: Messrs. Barclay, 95, Farringdon-street; Harvey and Co., 63, Oxford-street; Sauger, 100, Oxford-street; Edwards, 57, St. Paul's-churchyard; Sutton and Co., 10, Bow-churchyard; and Doughty, 26, Blackfriars-road.

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No sooner is the "Incessant Perspiration" checked than a host of evils begin to manifest themselves. A tightness is often felt in the Chest, Wheezing, difficulty of Breathing, Cold Feet, Heaviness in the Head, Swelling of the Joints, Cold Chills and Hot Flushes—producing a and variety of Cutaneous or Skin Diseases, Loss of Appetite, Dullness of Hearing, Ague in the Face or Breast, Pains in the Back or Sides, Costiveness, Palpitation of the Heart, or other symptoms, come rushing in to torment the sensitive frame. The surest and shortest method to remove all these ills is to restore what has been arrested, viz.:—the "Incessant Perspiration" by having recourse to OLD DR. TOWNSEND'S ORIGINAL AMERICAN SARSAPARILLA, the noblest preparation of this invaluable root ever discovered. It was introduced into England from America in 1851; and proved, by experience, to be the great purifier of the Blood, unparalleled in efficacy to restore and invigorate the constitution by eradicating all impurities from the system. It affords the greatest relief in all cases arising from irregular or obstructed perspiration, Colds, Coughs, &c., and all cutaneous disorders, giving a clear and healthy appearance to the skin. It is perfectly mild in operation, at the same time extraordinarily beneficial in effect—its peculiar composition and agreeable flavour render it a *ne plus ultra* in Medicine. Parents, who are reminded that Children are frequently much injured from the injudicious administration of Calomel, Seamen, and other strong purgatives, will find this celebrated Medicine obviate many infantile complaints; which, unrestrained, lay the foundation for a life of premature decay and suffering. The youth of both sexes, and especially the female—when opening into life, and the parent's advice and authority most unwisely too often set aside—would find the distress and irregularity of many incidental complaints peculiar to that era greatly ameliorated. The comforting properties of this restorative medicine to more matured life are well known to thousands who have greatly benefited by its use, and are ever ready to bear testimony of its powerful remedial aid; and to old age, when medicine generally appears losing its influence, and lassitude and languor, and weakness and decay are making sad inroads upon the once stalwart frame, no medicine ever previously discovered has been so great a blessing as this. Very many aged persons have enjoyed from its use a prolonged and pleasant existence, free from much of that weariness and pain arising from the vitiated and torpid circulation of the vital fluid. The more these original American medicines have become known, the more they are appreciated; and so extensively are these preparations used in the United States, as almost to supersede any others.

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These Pills, composed entirely of American vegetable products, without the addition of any mineral or mercurial preparation whatever, exert a most salutary influence over the system, and are instrumental in relieving many neglected, obstinate, and long-standing complaints, arising from Constipation of the Bowels, Flatulency, Indigestion, Inaction of the liver, consequent headache and nervous irritability, destructive of the energetic action both of body and mind. They are extremely gentle in their operation, and seldom produce griping or distress of the bowels. The superiority over other cathartic medicines will be immediately apparent, because they act through the entire intestinal canal with equal efficiency, removing all obstructions, humours, and irritating substances from the stomach downwards, whereas most other purgatives act only upon certain of the smaller or larger intestines, and consequently do little good, and sometimes great injury to the nervous system.

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The demand is daily increasing for these Pills, which are always useful in a family, and seldom leave when once introduced; and, in connexion with the Sarsaparilla, have wrought some of the most wonderful cures on record. 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. a box.

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Observe the Signatures of "J. J. HALLIDAY & Co." upon every box.—All others are spurious.

A NEW SYSTEM OF MEDICINE.—THE ANTISEPTIC TREATMENT.—Great results by harmless means. The most extraordinary cures have been made by this treatment in long-standing complaints. Cancer treated without pain, Lupus, Scrofula, Consumption, Throat and Skin Diseases, Ulceration and Irritation of the Mucous Membrane, Indigestion with nervousness, Diarrhoea, and other Chronic Disorders. See Treatise on Acacia Charcoal, post free, 1s. By W. Washington Evans, M.D., 12, Bernard-street, Primrose-hill, London.

IMPORTANT to EVERY MAN who KEEPS a HORSE, COW, SHEEP, or PIG.—**THORLEY'S FOOD** for CATTLE, as used in Her Majesty's stables; also on His Royal Highness the Prince Consort's farm, Windsor. Sold in casks containing 148 feeds (with measure enclosed), price 50s. per cask, carriage paid to any railway station in the United Kingdom. First prize at Bingley-hall, Birmingham, class 10, the property of the Earl of Aylesford was fed with this food; also the second prize, the property of His Royal Highness, the Prince Consort. A 64-page pamphlet, containing testimonials from Mr. Brebner, steward to His Royal Highness the Prince Consort; Mr. James Fisher, farm manager to Her Grace the Duchess of Athol; Sir David Cunningham, Bart.; Sir John Cathcart, Bart.; Sir John Ribton, Bart.; Sir John Hesketh Lethbridge, Bart.; and some of the leading agriculturists of the day; may be had, post free, on application to the inventor and sole proprietor, Joseph Thorley, 77, Newgate-street, London. Post-office orders to be made payable at the General Post-office.

KNOW THYSELF.—Marie Couppelle continues to give her useful and interesting delineations of character, from an examination of the handwriting, in a style peculiarly her own, and never before attempted in this country. All persons desirous of knowing themselves, or the true character of any friend in whom they may be interested, must send a specimen of their writing, stating the sex and age, and the fee of thirteen penny post stamps, to Miss Couppelle, 69, Castle-street, Oxford-street, London, and they will receive in a few days a full and minute detail of the talents, tastes, affections, virtues, failings, &c., of the writer, with many other things hitherto unsuspected. To prevent mistakes all applicants are requested to enclose an envelope directed to themselves. Miss Fletcher says, "You have described his character very accurately." I. Adams, Esq.: "My sister Fanny says it is quite correct." Miss Curtis: "I am most gratified with your faithful answers to my questions." All communications are confidential.

FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH. Price 1s. 1d., and 2s. 9d. per box. This excellent Family Pill is a medicine of long-tried efficacy for purifying the blood, so very essential for the foundation of good health, and correcting all disorders of the stomach and bowels. Two or three doses will convince the afflicted of its salutary effects. The stomach will speedily regain its strength, a healthy action of the liver, bowels, and kidneys, will rapidly take place, and renewed health will be the quick result of taking this medicine, according to the directions accompanying each box.

PERSONS of a FULL HABIT, who are subject to headache, giddiness, drowsiness, and ringing in the ears, arising from too great a flow of blood to the head, should never be without them, as many dangerous symptoms will be entirely carried off by their timely use.

For **FEMALES**, these Pills are truly excellent, removing all obstructions, the distressing headache so very prevalent with the sex, depression of spirits, dullness of sight, nervous affections, blotches, pimples, and sallowness of the skin, and give a healthy, juvenile bloom to the complexion.

To **MOTHERS** they are confidently recommended as the best Medicine that can be taken; and for Children of all ages they are unequalled.

These Pills unite the recommendation of a mild operation with the most successful effect, and for elderly people, or where an occasional aperient is required, nothing can be better adapted. In consequence of the great and increasing demand, the Proprietor has obtained permission from her Majesty's Commissioners to have the name and address of "THOMAS PROUT, 229, STRAND, LONDON," impressed upon the Government Stamp, affixed to each box.—Sold by all vendors of medicine.

BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS.—Price 1s. 1d., and 2s. 9d. per box.

This preparation is one of the benefits which the science of modern chemistry has conferred upon mankind; for, during the first twenty years of the present century, to speak of a cure for the Gout, was considered a romance; but now the efficacy and safety of this medicine is so fully demonstrated, by unsolicited testimonials from persons in every rank of life, that public opinion proclaims this as one of the most important discoveries of the present age.

These Pills require no restraint of diet or confinement during their use, and are certain to prevent the disease attacking any vital part.

Sold by all medicine vendors. See the name of "THOMAS PROUT, 229, STRAND, LONDON," on the Government Stamp.

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